

Integrated Telephone with Answering Machine SONY

• Incoming Message LED counter
• Quick Search/Protect and Store Functions
• Automatic Message Transfer
• Conversation Message Recording and Playback
• Sleepers remote control

Model: IT-A350

General Agent: SUPPLYING STORE CO. WLL
Tel: 2433408 & 5716085 & 3922771/2

ARAB TIMES

For professional high quality photographs using the very latest equipment in our large purpose built studios.

For creative still life brochures, product and industrial photography. Excellent slide covers from 10x15cm to 15x20cm. Black and white printing and processing.

For a complete professional photographic service, ring Mark on 461 1500 ext 255. And see how our images can help yours.

The image makers
ARAB TIMES
Photographic Services

NO. 7845 MONDAY, APRIL 16, 1990/RAMADAN 21, 1410 AH 20 PAGES 150 FILLS

NEWSWATCH



Waiting for Waite

David Waite, brother of kidnapped envoy Terry Waite, prays in the crypt of the Chapel of the Cross in the old Conventry Cathedral on March 29 during the filming of the programme "Highway". The programme, which was broadcast yesterday, contains an interview with David where he talks about the strain on the family with their three years' wait for news about Terry Waite. (Reuters wirephoto)



Again ... No!

MOSCOW, April 15, (UPI): Lithuania's leaders met yesterday to discuss a Soviet threat to cut off key supplies and the republic's president again rejected Moscow's two-day ultimatum to rescind a declaration of independence.

Lithuanian President Vytas Landsbergis (above) repeated after a meeting of the presidium of the republic's council of ministers that the republic would not meet today's deadline set by Moscow for independence measures to be revoked.

Details Page 7

Hussein ends fast: The leader of a political party of Indian immigrants ended a hunger strike Saturday that he launched six days ago demanding several supporters be released from jail.

Altaf Hussain's hunger strike ended Saturday after a four-hour meeting with Fakhruddin Ibrahim, governor of the troubled southern province of Sindh. Ibrahim is a member of the governing Pakistan People's Party, which dominates the provincial assembly. (AP)

Mitterrand pledges smooth flow: Radio Israel claimed on Sunday that French President Francois Mitterrand had promised his country would do all in its power to ensure smooth flow of Soviet Jews to Israel.

Mitterrand's pledge of help was contained in a message received by Israeli caretaker Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, according to the radio, monitored in Kuwait by Kuna.

The French president allegedly said the flood of Soviet Jewish emigrants must not be interrupted by any kind of hurdles. (Kuna)

20 die in black infighting: Twenty people were killed in an upsurge of black faction fighting in a virtual battle zone of South Africa's Natal province during the past 24 hours, police reported on Sunday.

More than 400 people have died in Natal since the beginning of February in the most serious fighting for years between the Zulu-based Inkatha movement and its rivals in groups allied to Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC).



Princess smiles

Princess Stephanie of Monaco smiles to her boyfriend Jean Yves Le Fuy on Sunday in Monaco during the boxing world championships Gianfranco Rosi (Italy) vs Kevin Daigle (USA). (Reuters wirephoto)

Beware of bomb campaign: Delhi

Troops arrest 150 in Kashmir

NEW DELHI, April 15, (Agencies): Delhi police told the public today to be on the lookout for more bombs in the Indian capital after three exploded in a week.

Kashmiri militants fighting Indian rule claimed responsibility for all three in an expansion of their campaign beyond the disputed Himalayan region.

Pakistan said yesterday it had put its forces on alert and was ready to

Diplomats in Delhi say they believe protestations from both sides that they do not want a war, but say they fear rhetoric getting out of hand or a border clash could set a war off.

An expanded Kashmiri bombing campaign would heighten the danger.

The worst incident was on Friday when a bomb planted on a private bus killed at least six people. The Press Trust of India said a caller claiming to speak for the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front said it was responsible for the blast.

The other two bombs were planted in police stations and injured 11 people. Another Kashmiri secessionist group claimed it had planted them.

About 300 people have been killed, mostly in the Kashmir valley, since the secessionist campaign exploded into violence in mid-January.

Some 30 groups are fighting Indian rule in the region either for a re-united and independent Kashmir or to join Pakistan.

The threat of war hovered over India and Pakistan today as arrests continued in Indian Kashmir of suspected separatists who have called for massive protests once a 10-day shoot-to-kill curfew is lifted.

Although diplomats say no mobilisation of the million-man Indian army and the 450,000 Pakistani army has been reported, both sides have ample forces along their 1,200 mile (2,000 km) border which India claims is the entry point for weapons and training for Muslim terror groups.

The murder of three hostages last Tuesday has infuriated New Delhi which holds Pakistan responsible due to its support for the Muslim separatists. Pakistan has denied arming the rebels but does harbour outspoken separatist leaders and supports a referendum which might lead to an independent or Pakistani-annexed Kashmir.

In Kashmir itself, where four million Muslims are in a virtual insurrection against 42 years of rule by the secular but overwhelmingly Hindu India, government medical workers have reportedly threatened to resign if a 10-day-old curfew is not lifted.

A boatman's daughter was wounded when security forces fired on people swimming or fleeing by boats across Nagla lake from troops who cordoned off northern areas of the city and launched house-to-house searches, police reported.

The Press Trust of India news agency said troops had arrested since last night more than 150 suspected members of militant organizations. A senior police source said more than 800 people were taken into custody in searches launched April 6, including several prominent political, social and religious figures.

A curfew has remained in effect since April 6 across the Kashmir valley causing serious food shortages and other hardships. Many people have accused troops of committing beatings and thefts during search operations.

Officials deny the allegations. Only residents with hard-to-obtain curfew passes are permitted out of their homes. Those without the passes risk being shot.

Local newspapers today carried a statement from the powerful Jammu and Kashmir Students Liberation Front calling on residents to stage massive protests once the curfew is relaxed.

On Saturday, an Islamic militant group released Amirullah Khan, 75, a former state legislator who had been abducted on Friday from his home in Shopian, 60 kilometres (37 miles) northeast of Srinagar, capital of India's Jammu-Kashmir state.

Pakistan has accused India of putting a large strike force into a base in the Rajasthan desert only 80 km (50 miles) from the border. Indian officials said that was where the unit was normally based.

Iranians held

DUBAI, April 15, (Kuna): Dubai police today arrested 11 Iranians who tried to enter the United Arab Emirates (UAE) illegally.

The infiltrators were arrested when they arrived in a launch which carried them to this emirate from the other side of the Gulf.

In a related development, police apprehended 23 people for residing unlawfully.

meet an invasion from India, where senior officials say Delhi has no intention of starting a war but is ready to meet a Pakistani attack.

The Delhi police warning, published in newspapers, gave special telephone numbers for reports of suspicious objects and told people to check their cars, especially if parked on the streets, before getting into them.

The Delhi bombs marked the first time the secessionist campaign has affected life outside Jammu and Kashmir, predominantly Hindu India's only Muslim-majority state.



Kashmir Muslims fighting for independence from India demonstrate in old Srinagar city on Friday to protest against alleged police excesses during house searches by security forces. More than 200 people have died in violence in the state since mid-January. (Reuters wirephoto)

Dayan blocked '67 plan

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 15, (Reuters): Israel's pursuit of setting up a Palestinian state in the occupied West Bank in 1967 but dropped the idea because of opposition by then-defence minister Moshe Dayan, a retired Israeli intelligence agent says.

Unlike its current role battling the Palestinians' drive for independence, the Shin Bet internal security service was the key vehicle in 1967 for Israel's plan for a Palestinian state, David Rosen, the agency's former Jerusalem and West Bank commander, wrote in his recently-published memoirs.

"We could have set up a Palestinian state then," Rosen told Haaretz newspaper's weekend magazine, suggesting Israel lost a promising chance for peace at a time when the PLO was weak and the West Bank was free of Jewish settlers.

He said that shortly after the 1967 Middle East war, Prime Minister Levi Eshkol instructed the Shin Bet to probe the Palestinians' readiness for their own state that would be formed following a period of self-rule.

Talks reached the point where it was agreed that Hebrew mayor Shimon Peres would be prime minister of the new state and the Palestinians were even debating whether the capital should be Hebrew or Ramallah.

Janabari was a prominent traditional leader and former Jordanian cabinet minister.

Ramadan timings

Break:	3.47am
Iftar:	6.15pm

Arafat rejects state without Jerusalem

Tension with Hamas

KUWAIT, April 15, (AP): Palestinian Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat was quoted today as saying he had rejected offers to create an independent Palestinian state because they did not include the return of Arab East Jerusalem.

"Several parties have offered to the PLO the setting up of an independent Palestinian state without Jerusalem, but we reject the offer because we don't want history to record that we gave up the capital of Palestine," Arafat said.

He was quoted by a Kuwait daily that he had also rejected calls by those parties to omit representation of Jerusalem in the Palestinian delegation to a proposed dialogue with Israel.

"We insist that a representative for the holy city, and one who was born there, should take part," he said. He gave no other details about the offers.

The daily said Arafat, speaking to a conference of Palestinian businessmen in Tunis, said the establishment of a Palestinian state was out far off.

"The Palestinian state is coming. It is within a stone's throw because those who are present on the political map should impose their presence on the geographical map as well," Arafat said.

The Palestinians and Arabs are seeking a peace settlement with Israel that provides for a Palestinian state including the Israeli-occupied West Bank and

Gaza Strip, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

So far, a peace plan put forward by Israel's caretaker Premier Yitzhak Shamir is only for elections and limited self-rule on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

US Secretary of State James Baker is trying to get a Palestinian-Israeli peace dialogue under way in Cairo to set the terms of the elections. But Israel is refusing to talk with any Palestinians connected to the PLO.

The Palestinian leader co-ordinated the existence of "minor differences" with the Islamic movement Hamas in the occupied territories, and warned against "any group that might think it can replace the PLO."

Arafat cautioned against Iranian attempts to control the Palestinian Islamic movement "with a view to disrupting the Palestinian position."

He was referring to threats by Hamas leaders that the group would sabotage any settlement that stops short of liberating all of Palestine, which would mean Israel as well as the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Israeli Army today imposed curfews on the Gaza Strip city of Rafah, Sheikh Radwan district in Gaza City and Al Shati, Jabalia, Khan Younis and Briej refugee camps.

Radio Israel said the army took this step in anticipation of protest actions.

Plans for phones

Cabinet nod to chemplex

KUWAIT, April 15, (Kuna): The cabinet today approved the Higher Planning Council's recommendation for the establishment of a petrochemicals complex, State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Al Rashed told reporters.

He said that the cabinet, meeting under chairmanship of HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah, referred the petrochemicals project to the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation for implementation.

Another recommendation for the planning council amending the telephone system in Kuwait through establishing a public authority to supervise all domestic and foreign telephone services was approved in principle and referred to the Communications Ministry for a detailed study on the practical phase of the project that would be tabled with the cabinet at a later session.

The cabinet reviewed and endorsed a number of international agreements on protecting workers from professional dangers and providing healthy conditions at work sites, Al Rashed said.

Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah delivered a report to the cabinet on results of the ministerial conference recently held in London on combating drugs, the state minister pointed out.

Panel submits plan for action

'Finance' takes over

GOVERNOR of the Central Bank of Kuwait and head of the government committee formed to follow up the implementation of proposals to reactivate local economy, Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah announced that the committee has asked the Ministry of Finance to draw up a set of regulations and conditions aimed at transferring public services to the private sector. In a detailed report about the achievements of the Follow-Up committee formed by the Council of Ministers to oversee the implementation of about 90 proposals aimed at reviving the national economy, Sheikh Salem said that a number of proposals have been already carried out. He added that the committee held six meetings during the past three months and has informed all the concerned government sides of the proposals that concern them. The official said that a number of the proposals have already been implemented and some others are on their way of application. But he added that a number of other recommendations may require over one year to execute.

Sheikh Salem said that the privatisation proposal has been informed to the Ministry of Finance, the side responsible for carrying out the laws of the country. He said the Ministry was asked to draw up a set of regulations and conditions to control the transfer of public services to the private sector. The ministry regulations should be in line with the country's economic and social goals and the interests of the private sector should be considered.

The committee also paid a great attention to the proposal calling for reviewing a number of important laws and legislations to ensure the efficiency of the economy and others. Sheikh Salem said that the Ministry of Justice has informed the committee that the ministry is currently contacting judicial and other sides to modernise the laws. The committee asked the Fatwa and Legislation Department to speed up its revision of the proposed amendments on a number of laws.

Sheikh Salem said that the committee also studied the proposal calling to re-evaluate the positions of some companies and projects facing difficulties with the aim to liquidate and merge them together. He said that the committee decided that the Ministry of Commerce review the positions of companies under its supervision and pointed out that this recommendation should be implemented within 6 months. He said that the Central Bank has already completed the study on the commercial banks, a number of investment companies and some money exchange companies. The studies were based upon their financial position of 1989. He said that the study on the remaining investment and money exchange companies would be completed before the end of June this year. The Ministry of Commerce on its part has proposed the amendment of a number of commercial company laws to facilitate taking the necessary decisions on the companies.

Sheikh Salem said that the Ministry of Planning was asked to seek the assistance of international sides like the World Bank and International Monetary Fund to help the ministry in providing national statistics and economic information in the shortest time possible.

(Continued on Page 8)

Iraq able to hit back

'Israel won't dare'

ABU DHABI, April 15, (Reuters): An Iraqi general was quoted today as saying Israel would not dare repeat a 1981 attack because Baghdad now had the ability to strike back.

"Israel will not dare to do that again because we have the deterrent," the UAE armed forces magazine Al Watan quoted senior Major-General Aliwan Aboualshai saying.

He did not say what the deterrent was. Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said this month that Iraq had binary chemical weapons and could destroy half of Israel if attacked.

In 1981 Israeli warplanes destroyed an Iraqi nuclear reactor.

Al Watan quoted General Monzer Ibrahim of the Iraqi moral guidance department as saying Iraq had succeeded in closing a gap in military technology between the Arabs and Israel.

"Iraq ... has entered the field of strategic weapons," he said without elaborating.

Iran offers Gulf 'buoy'

NICOSIA, April 15, (Reuters): Iran said today that its combat-experienced navy was ready to help train the armed forces of neighbouring countries, especially those of the Gulf states.

Iran's navy commander Ali Shamskan, was quoted by the Iranian news agency Irna, as saying two Iranian naval vessels would soon visit Oman.

The visit, he said, and the offer of military assistance was part of the Islamic republic's efforts to expand links with neighbouring states.

During the latter stages of the eight-year-long Gulf war, which was halted by a ceasefire in August, 1988, Iranian naval units clashed several times with US warships operating in the strategic waterway.

Cory won't last, say rebels; fugitive caught

MANILA, April 15, (UPI): Military rebels warned yesterday against US intervention in their bid to topple President Corason Aquino, whom they said will "definitely not be able" to complete her six-year term ending in 1992.

In a statement sent to news agencies, the underground revolutionary Alliance for the Masses-Soldiers of the Filipino People accused Aquino's government of corruption and lack of political will to institute reforms.

"Aquino will definitely not be able to finish her term as an illegitimate president and collaborating governor-general of the US government," the statement said. "Just wait and see ... it is most quiet before the storm unleashes its full fury."

The rebel group said it has never targeted US installations or personnel, but warned that Washington will be blamed for actions they will take against Americans.

"For as long as they leave us Filipinos alone in settling our internal problems, then they are not our enemy," the statement said.

The statement said that in case of intervention, the rebels "are willing to give them a fight that they will never forget."

Troops captured a renegade leader of last December's coup attempt and raided an office building in a Manila suburb today in a bid to prevent new attacks against Aquino's government.

A military report said Capt. Leovio Dioneda had been arrested yesterday near his house in Sorsogon province, 230 kilometres (370 miles) southeast of Manila.

Dioneda, administrative officer of the Philippine Constabulary, is charged with commanding two passenger buses and reinforcing rebel troops during the Dec 1-9 coup attempt.

Communist and government forces clashed in a northern Philippine province and 11 rebels and one soldier were killed, the military said today in Manila.

INTERNATIONAL

Hawaii senator dies of cancer

WASHINGTON, April 15, (AP) US Senator Spark M. Matsunaga of Hawaii, who helped pave the way for a postwar generation of Japanese-American politicians, died today after a bout with prostate cancer. He was 73.

Matsunaga, who used a wheelchair when he cast his final votes on the senate floor before last week's recess, died before dawn Easter Sunday at Toronto general hospital, nursing coordinator Olga Muir said.

His press secretary Ed Greaney said in Washington that Matsunaga had gone to an oncology clinic in Canada for treatment last week. The senator had announced in January that he was suffering from prostate cancer that had metastasized to the bone.

The son of Japanese immigrants, Matsunaga was a member of the All-Nisei Regiment that served in Europe during World War II. His battalion became part of the famed 442nd regimental combat team, the most decorated regiment in US history.

Matsunaga himself was twice wounded and received combat medals including the Bronze Star and Purple Heart with cluster.

While he was serving in the US military, many of Matsunaga's family members and friends were among the thousands of Japanese-Americans confined in US internment camps.

In 1971, Matsunaga sponsored legislation to repeal the emergency detention act, under which the camps were established.

"He will be remembered most for his vision of peace and his faith in the human heart," Hawaii Gov. John Waihee, a Democrat, said in a statement today. "In his memory we will carry on his quest. In his spirit we will strive for the highest of principles and the brightest of worlds."

Altaf ends week-long hunger strike

KARACHI, April 15, (Agencies): A powerful Pakistani opposition leader ended a week-long hunger strike last night, defusing a political crisis in Karachi.

Altaf Hussain's decision was greeted with wild applause by supporters and women activists who had surrounded

the mohajir leader since he began his fast after a spate of political killings last weekend.

At least 19 people were killed in violence between youth activists of Hussain's Mohajir National Movement (MQM) and Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's

Party (PPP).

The decision followed hours of talks with the governor of Sind province, Fakhruddin Ebrahim, who went to Hussain's bedside to broker an accord on talks between the warring groups.

Both sides have been looking for a face-saving formula to end the crisis

and Ebrahim made it clear he was acting on behalf of the Sind government, Benazir and the president.

Hussain gave the government two weeks to meet his demands, but agreed that criminals involved in the political killings should be dealt with by the courts.

He began his fast to demand the release of MQM activists and arrest of the killers of his own supporters. A PPP leader later launched his own hunger strike.

Hussain's fast sparked fears of even greater violence in Sind, but he told reporters it has averted more killings.

"If I had not started this fast, another death thousands of people would have been killed," he said.

Army and paramilitary forces continue to patrol Karachi, a city of eight million people that has seen repeated violence between the MQM and PPP in recent months.

Welcome Bengali new year

Baishakh mela

DHAKA, April 15, (Reuters): Thousands of men, women and children, many wearing masks, danced in a joyful march in Dhaka to mark the Bengali new year's day today.

The street march, organised by students of the Bangladesh Academy of Fine Arts, was led by giant elephants, horses and other beasts made of clay and paper and drawn on wooden carriages.

They passed alongside lush green parks where radio and television performers sang welcome songs, recited poems and held rallies attended by thousands of listeners.

Many people attended discussions on the history, traditions and heritage of the Bengali nation and its culture.

Children and their mothers thronged stalls selling toys,

sweets and household utensils at fairs called Baishakh mela, held in all towns and each of the country's 68,000 villages.

The national holiday gave welcome relief from day-to-day economic realities that have led most people to cut down on luxuries such as lavish family meals and costly clothes.

"We can hardly afford such luxuries now," said housewife Amena Khatun. "But children are the exception and they wait for a long time for the occasion, for a few toys."

Others attending a cultural session at Dhaka's main Ramna Park said they were unable to buy good fish or prepare traditional dishes because of high prices.

Market sources said prices of most necessities including rice

and vegetables had gone up by at least 20 per cent over the past month.

Pahela Baishakh, the first day of the Bengali year, is one of the most auspicious festivals in both Bangladesh and the neighbouring Indian state of West Bengal.

Political rivals of President Hossain Mohammad Ershad sent greetings to Bangladeshi people, urging them to unite and launch a massive national movement to "overthrow Ershad and his corrupt and inert government."

Police said today one person was killed and 50 injured when a seasonal storm, called the Nor'wester, lashed the northern suburbs of Dhaka and northeastern Sylhet area a few hours before the new year's advent.

Iran envoy for Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, April 15, (Kuna): Iran is to upgrade its diplomatic mission in Sri Lanka shortly, according to an official source.

The source said the Iranian government had decided to upgrade its present charge d'affaires office to embassy status. The new ambassador is expected to arrive in Colombo next month, said the source who wished to be unnamed.

The decision to upgrade the Iranian mission was taken more than five years ago, but the Sri Lankan decision to allow Israel open an interests section put that off, the source said.

Trip to boost ties

Singh to visit Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, April 15, (Kuna): Indian Prime Minister V.P. Singh's visit to Malaysia in June will help establish personal ties between leaders of both countries, Foreign Minister Abu Hasan Omar said yesterday.

Such ties were vital as Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad has not known V.P. Singh closely, he said.

Ahu Hassan said he did not notice any glaring difference between V.P. Singh's administration and that of Rajiv's with regard to India-Malaysia rela-

tions. He told a news conference summarising his recent three-day visit to India that Malaysia and India had "a government to government" relationship.

Malaysia hoped that whoever became prime minister would perpetuate the relationship, he said.

Abu Hassan added he was satisfied with his visit as special envoy of the Malaysian premier because V.P. Singh had confirmed he would attend the "G-15" summit here from June 1 to 3.

Nepal reform talks begin

KATHMANDU, April 15, (Agencies): Angry crowds chanting "hang the killers" stoned a limousine carrying Nepal's Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand as key talks on political reforms opened today.

Witnesses said a huge crowd surrounded the building in central Kathmandu where the talks between the government and the opposition were taking place and forced the limousine back into the complex.

The government of King Birendra were meeting a combined opposition group led by the Nepali Congress Party to discuss political reforms nine days after troops fired on crowds demanding democracy, killing at least 50 people.

The crowds demanded the prime minister's resignation. "He must resign this moment if not the crowd will not let him get out," a Congress official said.

The crowd had blocked all gates of the Royal Academy building where the talks were taking place and the situation was tense, witnesses said.

The Congress and seven communist parties grouped under the Movement for Restoration of Democracy (MRD) said between 150 and 200 were killed in the April 6 shooting. The government has put the death toll at six.

Birendra afterwards lifted a 30-year ban on political parties but the MRD accused him of stalling the reform process to preserve his powers.

King Birendra had agreed to discuss the opposition demands Friday during a meeting with movement leader, Ganesh Mann Singh of the Nepali Congress Party.

Also today, eight medical professionals began a hunger strike to press for the resignation of Home Minister Nain Bahadur Swarni, whom they said was ultimately responsible for doctors who were injured and mistreated during the violent pro-democracy protests.

King Birendra, appearing in public yesterday for the first time since violent protests wracked the Himalayan kingdom, asked his countrymen to safeguard democracy and said he was sorry people died during the successful six-week reform movement.

"We are confident that proper understanding and respect for the norms of democracy by all Nepalis will safeguard the values and ideals of democracy in Nepal for all time to come," the Hindu monarch said in a national message marking the Nepalese new year 2047.

King Birendra and Queen Aishwarya appeared at a new year's day ceremony where he conferred decorations on 135 people, a royal palace announcement said. The king had not been seen publicly for weeks.

"The loss of life and destruction of property have saddened us," the king said. "Politics in Nepal have now taken a new turn."

At least 52 people died during the democracy movement that was launched Feb 18 by the Nepali Congress Party and seven factionalized communist parties.

The government announced that it would offer compensation for the deaths by giving \$519 to each of the families of those killed.

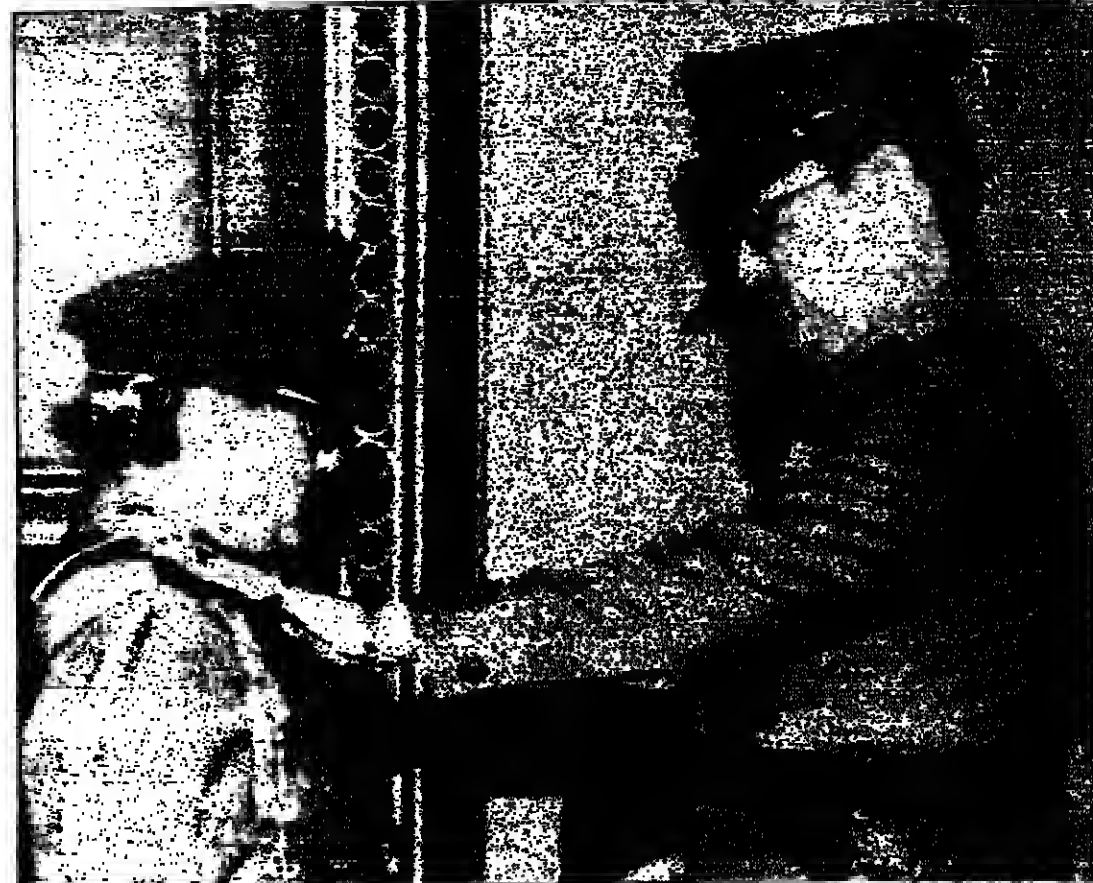
Hindus flocked to crowded temples early in the morning to offer prayers for the new year. Birendra met Friday in the royal palace with Ganesh Mann Singh, who said later the king was considering the opposition demands.

Pakistan judge appointed rector

ISLAMABAD, April 15, (Kuna): Chief justice of the supreme court Mohammad Afzal Zullah has been appointed as rector of the International Islamic University in Islamabad, according to a university announcement.

He will work as rector on an honorary basis in addition to his own duties as the chief justice of Pakistan's most superior court.

The announcement said that Zullah's appointment had been made by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, in his capacity as chancellor of the International Islamic University for a period of five years.



King Birendra (right) presents Field Marshal Shamsheer with the country's highest decoration of the year. (Reuters wirephoto)



Man Singh (right) talks to party workers coming to greet him April 12. (Reuters wirephoto)

India's buildup drive

No peace dividend

NEW DELHI, April 15, (AP): Arms reduction may be the order of the day for the superpowers, but India's drive to become the next military giant has scuttled hopes of a "peace dividend" in economically strapped South Asia.

India's neighbours, especially Pakistan, are following its lead in the buildup. Western military analysts and Indian intellectuals fear another chapter of an expensive regional arms race is about to begin.

While the Soviet Union withdraws troops from Eastern Europe and the United States plans defence cuts, Indian defence budget for 1990 is more than 10 per cent above last year.

Between 1985 and 1989, India bought more weapons — \$17.3 billion worth — than any country in the world.

In response, Pakistan's President Ghulam Ishaq Khan vowed to continue stockpiling advanced weapons. Pakistan already allocates 52 per cent of its \$6.8 billion federal budget for defence. China recently announced a defence spending increase of 15.2 per cent over 1989.

"There will be no peace dividend in South Asia," said Ian Anthony, an expert on the Indian military at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute in Sweden. "India thinks a strong military will give it international prestige. I think they've got it wrong."

Anthony and other Western military analysts say India is the engine driving the arms buildup in the region. More important than recent tensions with Pakistan, they say, is India's desire to achieve military might.

"India already has enough troops to smother Pakistan in a protracted war," said a Western military official in New Delhi. "They have their sights on long-term military role."

Western economists and Indian intellectuals say the buildup is harming India's economy and the economies of the region's other developing countries.

India already has fallen behind in the world's economic race.

Pakistan has the highest per capita Gross National Product in the region, only \$350 a year, and a host of domestic problems that include a burgeoning drug trade and ethnic violence.

Bangladesh and Nepal, two of the poorest countries in the world, spend large amounts of their foreign exchange on weapons.

Some say India is seeking entry into the mighty club for reasons of pride.

"Weakness is not honoured. We want to be strong," A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, father of India's first intermediate-range ballistic missile, said soon after the rocket's test firing last May.

Others feel India wants to assume the role its former colonial masters, the British, once played in South Asia. India is not seeking to colonize the region, they say, but it wants to be viewed as the protector of its smaller neigh-

bours.

"The British dominated the subcontinent. They guaranteed its security," said Giri Deshmukar, director of the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies. "India's military wants to do the same."

The fall of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi late last year led development experts to hope that the defence budget, which has jumped 400 per cent in a decade, might be cut.

But troubles with Pakistan strengthened the military lobby, experts said, and hopes that Prime Minister V.P. Singh's government would channel more money to education and health soon evaporated.

On March 19, the new government announced a 10.5 per cent rise in defence spending to \$9.3 billion. The bulk of the increase went for arms purchases.

In a speech late last month, India's chief of naval staff, Adm. J.G. Nadkarni, argued that military might, not economic development, was the key to power.

"There are few things that India can do that can get this country greater leverage with the great powers than to interfere with their plans," Nadkarni said.

The mere capability to interfere with superpower movement in international waters, he said, would cause them to think twice before crossing India diplomatically.

"It's basic gunboat diplomacy," said one Western military officer. "We don't think it will work."

With 1.4 million men, India has the fourth-largest military in the world, after the Soviet Union, China and the United States. The Indian Air Force, with 870 planes, ranks third behind Moscow and Washington in heavy combat aircraft capacity.

India has built a "blue water navy," floating two aircraft carriers with British-made harrier "jump jets."

In 1988 a Soviet-made nuclear submarine joined India's 16 conventional subs.

Since winning independence from Britain in 1947, India's soldiers, not diplomats, have played the key role in most foreign policy crises.

A border dispute with Pakistan over Kashmir led to war in 1948 and again in 1965. In 1971, India's military intervention in the Pakistani civil war helped create a new nation when East Pakistan split from West Pakistan and became Bangladesh.

In 1961, India annexed Goa, a Portuguese colony on its western coast, by sending in the army.

The next year, a border dispute with China brought India its only major defeat. China seized 38,000 sq kms (1,500 sq miles) during the short war. Middle-aged Indians still talk about the humiliation. And, despite improving ties, China is seen as a threat.

In Salmiya's Brightest Spot...

...Soon

St-191-E

Poison threat halts production of zentel

Extortionist demands \$1 million

PARIS, April 15, (AP) — A drug company halted production at its factory yesterday and ordered its products off drugstore shelves after tests showed that an extortionist poisoned some of its medicine with sulphuric acid.

Smith Kline and French, subsidiary of the US company SmithKline Beecham, said the poison was detected in a bottle of zentel, an anti-parasite medicine exported throughout the Third World.

The tests were conducted following threats from an extortionist demanding 6 million francs (\$1 million).

Philippe Morin, the company's director of human resources, said Smith Kline and French was suspending all exports of zentel, which is sold in numerous African, Asian and South American countries under the name Albendazole.

Efforts would be made to halt the sale of zentel stocks shipped overseas since the first threat was made in early April, the company said.

Zentel is produced only for export, but the company announced a temporary halt of production of all medicines at its factory in Limay, outside Paris. It also imposed a quarantine on sales of all products made at the factory since March 15.

The steps were taken after the extortionist, seeking to back up initial telephoned threats, informed the company last Tuesday that a bottle of zentel had been contaminated and explained how to find it, Smith Kline said.

After experts confirmed the presence of sulphuric acid in the bottle, the Health Ministry was alerted and protective measures were worked out, Morin said.

"The steps which immediately were taken provided full guarantees in regard to the safety of the public," the company said. It said police were investigating.

The company said more than 30 different medicines were affected by the quarantine, including sythol, an antiseptic solution widely used in France in lotions and mouthwash. No information was disclosed on the possible financial impact of the company's steps.

In 1982, seven people in the Chicago area died after consuming cyanide-tainted tylenol, a pain reliever. The case has never been solved.

Johnson and Johnson, which owned McNeil Consumer Products, the manufacturer of tylenol, withdrew the pain relievers from the market after the poisonings broke out.

Many analysts thought the product tampering would ruin Johnson and Johnson, but the quick withdrawal of its products seemed to reassure the public, and the company rebounded financially.

In a copycat case, a Seattle-area woman put cyanide in another pain reliever, killing her husband and a stranger. Stella Nickell received a 90-year prison sentence in 1988 for the poisonings.

6 die from toxic heroin

MARSEILLE, April 15, (AP) — Six young drug addicts have died and four have been paralysed in the past 10 days after using a heroin-based compound contaminated with a toxic substance, police said today.

Newspapers suggested the poison might be strychnine, because 100 grammes of the chemical was stolen from a Marseille pharmacy on March 30.

But police said laboratory tests remain inconclusive, and they are unsure whether someone is deliberately trying to cause deaths.

Shooting in subway recalls Bernhard

NEW YORK, April 15, (Reuters) — The case of a subway robbery victim who shot and killed one of his attackers has echoes of the 1984 subway shootings by "subway vigilantes" Bernhard Goetz.

Police are appealing to the gunman, a middle-aged white man, to turn himself in, but Goetz' lawyer is urging him not to do so.

"If I were the innocent victim, or the so-called 'Bernie Goetz', I'd probably be on a plane to Florida — where most anybody who is a resident can buy a gun and carry one," lawyer Barry Slotnick told Reuters yesterday.

"New York is archaic — we only allow our criminals to carry guns," he added.

According to witnesses, the man fired three shots at a gang of black youths who attacked him on Thursday night, killing their leader with one bullet in the chest. Then he calmly walked off the train when it pulled into the next stop.

The dead man, Ricky Pickett, 25, of Brooklyn, had a criminal record dating back to 1981 that included four robbery convictions, police said.

The incident has parallels to the Goetz case, in which the 27-year-old electrical engineer shot and wounded four youths he said threatened him with weapons including sharp-edged screwdrivers and asked him for \$5.

The case attracted international attention as an example of vigilantism in the face of growing urban crime.

But police say there are significant differences this time, particularly the fact the middle-aged man was robbed and beaten at knife-point before he drew his gun.

"This is not the Bernie Goetz case. This is a man who clearly was being robbed and being attacked by a young man acting in a clearly irrational manner," said Brooklyn chief of detectives Joseph Demarzio.

Goetz turned himself in nine days after the incident and eventually stood trial. He was acquitted in 1987 of attempted murder and assault charges, but was convicted of possession of an unlicensed gun and served 250 days in jail.

Police have appealed to the mystery man to turn himself in, saying he is being considered a victim — although he could face charges if his gun is not registered. No gun has been recovered.

But Slotnick said that would probably change if the man were found.

"They may now be saying, 'don't worry about it, but I don't trust it. I think they'll be forced to charge him because there's going to be a line and cry that it was a racial attack,'" Slotnick said.



Twin students

School teacher Rashid Zainal (top) poses with his students, seven sets of twins at San Peng Secondary School in Kuala Lumpur on April 12. The school has a total of 11 sets of twins, frequently causing headaches to teachers who mistake one for the other, according to school headmaster Ganasa Murthi. (Reuters wirephoto)

Vintage air rally Setback for US couple

MUSCAT, April 15, (AP) — One more veteran flier temporarily dropped out yesterday from the world vintage air rally after mechanical problems grounded his plane in the southern Gulf Sultanate of Oman.

But 75-year-old grandfather Bob Mosley of Vashon Island, Washington was confident it was a minor setback.

"We will be following the others just as soon as we can take off," said Mosley, who together with his wife Marilyn, is piloting a 1948 Beech Bonanza to retrace the old imperial airways mail route from England to Australia.

There were 24 starters in the epic 10,000-mile (16,000-km) rally which started March 25 from London, grouping ancient Cessnas, De Havillands, Bellanca, Stinsons, Beeches and Pipers, among others.

Six were abandoned along the way due to crashes or engine problems, but no injuries were incurred.

Fifteen other veteran pilots flew out their aircraft in the Sultanate's desert heat earlier Saturday bound across the Gulf of Oman for an Easter Sunday group celebration on their next stop, Gwadar, Pakistan.

The squadron of pre-1950 single-engine aircraft took off from Seeb international airport, 30 miles (48 kms) from the capital in 70 per cent humidity and temperatures topping 102 degrees Fahrenheit (39 degrees Centigrade).

The fliers, two to three to each plane, are mainly Americans and Australians, mostly in their 60s and 70s. The women are members of the "99's", an international women fliers' association started in the United States by Amelia Earhart as a World War II support group for male pilots.

The Mosleys, in a telephone interview from Seeb, said their aircraft was undergoing main-

tenance for voltage regulator and radio repairs, and they hoped to take off today.

Bob, a retired US reservist army colonel and 51-year-old Marilyn, an educational psychologist, have spent more than \$30,000 of their savings on the round-the-world adventure which both described as "worth every cent."

"I haven't discovered a way to take my money with me when I die so I might as well spend it now and have some fun," said Bob who has been flying airplanes for 43 years.

The Mosleys took off from the United States on March 8 and have since flown through Canada, Europe and the Middle East to take part in the commemorative rally.

"We have obviously had to spend money on maintenance and repairs and special survival equipment to cross the Atlantic but it has all been worth it," said Bob. They hope eventually to touch down safely at home again on June 1 after nearly three months flying across the world.

"It has been a wonderful experience so far," said Bob. "There is a great camaraderie on the rally. We share equipment, offer each other a lot of advice and we work together as much as we can."

As a husband and wife team, there was an added difference. "Obviously there is some arguing in the cockpit just as there would be driving together. But we are having a marvellous time," he said. "It is adventure and excitement, flying and romance all rolled into one."

There was what he called an "only low point," which was having to pay \$510 for landing fees and gas in Saudi Arabia. "Landing in so many different places can also be very exasperating with a lot of hanging around, what I call 'Hurry up and wait syndrome,'" Mosley said.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

BELGRADE: A wild mushroom reportedly capable of restoring lost virility and enhancing fertility is causing quite a scramble among tourists in western Yugoslavia. Hundreds of foreign visitors, mostly men, are tramping through fields and forests in search of the morel (*Morchella Esculenta*), which grows in the region around Mount Romanija in the Yugoslav republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug said on Friday.

While the claim of restoring sexual prowess may be open to debate, the humble morel's powers to invigorate the tourist trade is beyond question.

Miraculous stories abound. Villagers tell visitors of the wife of a retired woodcutter who had 12 children, the last one when she was 57. Or there's the 101-year-old Zaida Sasale, mother of 10, whose husband died a few years ago but was full of vigor until his last day. (UPI)

ST LOUIS: An advocate for the homeless said he plans to serve free rabbit dinners Easter Sunday to remind people of the meaning of the religious holiday.

The Rev. Larry Rice, director of the New Life Evangelistic Centre, said 800 people were expected to dine on the free meal of Easter bunny at shelters in St Louis and Kansas City.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ commemorated on the Easter holiday has been forgotten by people who are worshipping a rabbit instead, Rice said.

"Millions of Americans on Easter day are going hungry while we adore this little rabbit," Rice said on Saturday. (UPI)

SINGAPORE: The flush or pay rule for public toilets will not be lifted despite a serious dry spell that has prompted the government to crack down on wasteful water consumption, officials said on Sunday.

"Public health cannot be compromised," an Environment Ministry spokesman said. "Toilets have to be flushed after use."

First time offenders who forget to



Fairytale wedding

Australian socialite Princess Dunlop and her former fiance Lorenzo Montesani worked as an airline steward and claimed to hold the title Prince Giustiani have shocked Australian society circles with the news they have called off their fairytale wedding. (Reuters wirephoto)

flush are fined \$75 and repeat offenders must pay \$250 under the mandate, imposed last year to crack down on anti-social toilet users. Those who commit a third or subsequent offense are slapped with \$500 fine.

Undercover environmental health officials pretend to wash their hands or use urinals in public rest rooms in order to catch the offenders. (UPI)



Giant hands

A little girl examines a giant pair of hands set amongst one of Hong Kong's shopping districts. The city's hotels recorded a 78.49 per cent increase over last month's occupancy which is not far from levels last year before the eruption of political turmoil in China. (Reuters wirephoto)

numbers of species was recently named a site of hemispheric importance by the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Network, an international coalition of organizations committed to shorebird conservation.

"The designation provides recognition of the importance of the bay as a major habitat, based on the number of birds recorded there, said Gary Page, biologist with the Point Reyes Bird Observatory of Sinsion."

Gunman shoots 4, killing 2, in hospital room rampage

SAN DIEGO, April 15, (AP) — A gunman shot four people, killing two, in a rampage through a hospital emergency room last night and was arrested by police about an hour later, officials said.

Police believed the assailant was a 42-year-old man whose father had been treated at Mission Bay Memorial Hospital on Friday night, police spokesman Dave Chen said. Cohen could not say what happened to the gunman's relative.

"He walked into the emergency room," Cohen said. "He approached the nurses' station, pulled out a handgun and started firing."

The identity of the gunman was not released. Police said that an emergency room physician, a

nurse, an emergency medical technician and a patient's relative were among the victims.

One victim died at the scene and the second, a woman, died after being transported in critical condition to Scripps Memorial Hospital in La Jolla, about 10 miles from San Diego.

The woman later was identified as the nurse, Debbie Burke. The names of the other wounded were not immediately available.

Another victim taken to Scripps, a man, was in serious condition with an abdominal wound, said Karen McFarlane, a nursing supervisor.

The third wounded victim was being inside the hospital where the 5 pm, (2200 GMT) shooting spree took place.

The gunman later was reported arrested by police in oceanside, about 40 miles north of San Diego.

"I don't know if he walked into the police department or they picked him up, he's in police custody," Cohen said.

Natom Okannes, who was across the street from the hospital at a used car lot, said he was looking at cars when he heard three to four gunshots.

"All of a sudden there were all these police cars and helicopters overhead. They closed off this road and haven't been letting anyone out," he said.

National brings more power to TV colour and sound with big screen.

Dome Sound System

TC-AV33XR

Type 33 6cm

TC-AV29XR

Type 29 72cm

TC-2685TR

26 46cm

TC-AV33XR

Type 33 6cm

TC-AV29XR

Type 29 72cm

TC-2685TR

26 46cm

JUST ARRIVED.....

New collection - Summer '90

★ Ladies & mens' fashion

★ Leather goods

at:

Salhia Complex, Ground Floor

Tel. 2433558

WANTED

for immediate employment

Air-conditioning technicians and engineer.

Must have knowledge of all types of air-conditioning units.

Please contact tel. No. 2651500

ناشيونال

National

للخدمات والمعدات الكهربائية

EASA HUSSAIN AL YOUSIFI

National Centre, Abdullah Salem St. Al Yousifi Bldg. Satat

Kuwait Tel: 2436388-2436399-2436395 Shuwaikh

Showroom — Junction of 4th Ring Road and Ghazal St.

Tel: 4885205

INTERNATIONAL

UK jail talks resume but no breakthrough

Fire hoses turned on rooftop protesters

MANCHESTER, England, April 15. (Reuters) Prison officials turned fire hoses on rooftop protesters at Strangeways jail in Manchester yesterday and inmates reacted angrily.

One prisoner holding out at Britain's longest jail siege warned that if authorities wanted to use water hoses the inmates would start fires in the building.

"Every time you do that, two more days," shouted Glyn Richards, who was soaked while staging a daily protest during a two-week-old siege.

Prison authorities, criticised for failing to retake the jail by force, said negotiations had resumed with the 13 men believed to be still in the jail, but there were no signs of a

breakthrough.

An apparent surrender agreement on Friday crumbled after the inmates decided at the last minute not to give themselves up.

Prison official Ian Lockwood said Governor Brendan O'Friel, who described the April 1 riot at the jail as "an explosion of evil," was committed to finding a peaceful solution to the standoff.

One prisoner died in hospital after being beaten in the revolt and a prison officer died of a heart attack after attempting to stop rioting inmates taking over the jail.

Since the Strangeways riot, violence spread to other prisons around Britain, drawing attention to prisoners' grievances

about antiquated and overcrowded jails. The trouble at all prisons except Strangeways has now been brought under control.

Police are investigating the death of one prisoner whose charred body was found after fires broke out during a 24-hour siege at Dartmoor prison in southwest England last weekend.

The British Broadcasting Corp. showed footage of several prisoners standing on the prison's rooftop shaking their fists or waving to relatives. One inmate angrily threatened to continue the occupation until Tuesday.

Home Office spokeswoman Pam Teares said there was no guarantee the siege

would end on Easter today as one inmate had suggested in a message written on a roof slate he displayed Friday.

"They have said various things. We'll just wait and see what happens," she said.

Negotiators returned to their talks with inmates across Gateways and Stairwells that are blocked by wreckage created in the dispute, which began April 1. The 13 prisoners hold the central rotunda, from which they can control access to the jail's five main wings.

Authorities have been using loud music, sirens, swooping helicopters and other intimidatory tactics to try to break the resolve of the diehard inmates.

Mysterious man ignored warning

Danish ferry disaster probe

COPENHAGEN, April 15. (Agencies) A suspicious-looking man strolling about the burning Scandinavian Star ignored a warning to leave the ferry on which about 160 people died, a crew member told a court of inquiry yesterday.

In addition, the ship's Norwegian captain said in an interview that the fire bore the marks of an expert arsonist. "It looks professional," Captain Hugo Larsen said.

A major fire on the ship was set on a staircase where it could block key emergency exits, and an earlier fire may have served as a diversion so the main blaze could spread unhindered, Larsen said.

"That was a way to get the people away from where the fire really was," he said.

The inquiry, in its fourth day yesterday, is investigating the fire which engulfed the ferry a week ago as it sailed from Oslo to Denmark with about 500 people on board.



Wrestling woman

Deon Williams (left) wrestles with an unidentified woman in Boston's Dorchester neighbourhood on April 11 after he saw the woman and an accomplice allegedly trying to rob one of Williams' neighbours outside a cheque-cashing station. The woman was arrested, but her accomplice reportedly escaped with the money. (Reuters wirephoto)

White flags on French roads

PARIS, April 15. (Reuters) French drivers are being urged to fly white flags on their car aerials in the hope the traditional symbol of peace will help cut accidents on packed Easter roads.

By Saturday morning, 61 road deaths had been reported since midnight on Thursday, compared with last year's 68.

"We've saved seven lives," said a spokeswoman for the "White Flag" campaign sponsored by television and radio stations.

"The Easter weekend is one of the worst in the year for accidents," she said, noting that deaths over the four-day break had averaged 169 since 1985.

REQUIRED

ONE MACHINE SHOP AND FABRICATION SUPERVISOR

Qualification - Diploma in Mech. Engineering. 10 years practical experience with at least 5 years' in Kuwait.

Experienced in following:

Gear cutting, turning and milling
Able to work from drawings
Able to supervise and erect steel fabrications and welding.
Well-versed in developments in welding procedures.
Able to estimate & cost for jobs

ONE MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Qualification - Diploma in Engineering. 10 years' experience in maintenance of hydraulic and pneumatic machines. Able to read hydraulic drawings and work independently under own initiative.

ONE MAINTENANCE MECHANIC/FITTER:

5 years' experience in maintenance of hydraulic machines, systems. Experienced in overhaul of hydraulic pumps, motors.

ONE AUTO ELECTRICIAN

5 years' experience in maintenance of autos and heavy plant.

All applications must be sent to:
Administrative Manager, P.O. Box 1393
Safat, 13014 KT

Oslo police said yesterday they estimate 161 people died in the fire. They believe an arsonist was responsible. The death toll has gradually been reduced from 193 earlier in the week as police account for those reported missing.

Several witnesses have told the court of seeing a suspicious-looking man dressed in blue walking about the ship as it billowed smoke and passengers rushed for lifeboats.

Ship Steward Baptista Iglesias Meire told the court he warned the man to head for the lifeboats, but was ignored.

"I saw a mysterious man near the hospital section...he went calmly around the ship, looking down the corridors, and not trying to get out," Meire said. "I shouted loudly to the man in English, 'you must go, get out,' but he didn't reply."

The witnesses have described the man as being tall and thin, 55-60 years old, with greying hair, and wearing a blue jacket and pants that did not match.

Other witnesses said malfunctioning motors on one life raft had not been repaired in the days before the fatal voyage and that they had not seen the ship's emergency plan.

"There was a general lack of organisation and co-ordination," second engineer Manuel Martins told the court.

Danish ship operator Da-No Line acquired the ferry in late March from a US company.

"They put (the fire) in the bottom of the staircase, where all escape was blocked," captain Larsen said.

He added that an initial fire, discovered and quickly extinguished, may have been set to divert attention from at least two more serious fires that broke out in another section of the ship shortly afterwards.

"That was a way to get the people away from where the fire really was," he said.

Larsen said he had no reason to believe one of the crew was responsible, despite the evidence that the fire was started by someone who knew the ferry. "Anyone can find a diagram of the ship," he said.

Norwegian police reduced their estimate of fatalities in the fire to 160 on Friday from 193 earlier in the week, as they continue to account for people earlier reported as missing.

Manuel Martins, the second engineer, told a marine inquiry in Copenhagen that the atmosphere between the 16 men in the engine room was "tense" during the week before the fire.

He, along with his Portuguese colleagues, had language difficulties with the Filipino machinists, Martins said. The chief engineer was a West German.

Martins and the other Portuguese were irritated because the Filipinos had the only keys to the engine room tool chests.



Golfing in the rain

President George Bush, declaring golf good for the soul, took Denis Thatcher, husband of the British prime minister, golfing in a rainstorm on Saturday.

Bush, who completed a one-day round of talks with Margaret Thatcher on Friday, took her husband to the links for a round of golf — ignoring a sometimes heavy rain and wind gusts of more than 35 mph (55 kph).

"We wanted the press to walk around and get in shape," Bush said to a small group of journalists who watched parts of the contest.

Bush, who dodged reporters' questions about the latest developments in Lithuania, stopped to discuss why the president of the United States would get up early to stand in the rain and hit a small ball. (Reuters wirephoto)

Protesters burn bills

Tories face polls defeat

LONDON, April 15. (Agencies) Britain's ruling Conservative Party, facing its biggest slump in opinion polls for decades, will lose a quarter of its local council seats in elections next month, according to a forecast published today.

The forecast in the Sunday Times said the Conservatives would lose up to 300 seats in the May 3 polls, seen as the biggest test of voter opinion since the 1987 general election.

The opposition Labour Party, with a 24-point lead over the Conservatives, should, gain between 550 and 600 seats, according to the forecast carried out by the Polytechnic South West in Plymouth.

"The Tories (Conservatives) are threatened with a devastating set of results," the Sunday Times said.

Disastrous results for the Conservatives and massive gains for Labour could renew pressure on the leadership of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Thatcher's difficulties will be compounded a week after the elections when Britain's inflation figures for April are expected to rise to about 9.5 per cent.

Chancellor of the Exchequer

John Major said in his budget speech in March that a new tax is likely to add one per cent to April's inflation rate.

The deeply unpopular poll tax, a levy on every adult to pay for local government services, has caused violent protests around Britain and riots in London.

Thousands of anti-poll tax demonstrators took to the streets in cities across England yesterday for a series of peaceful protests in which some people burned their poll tax bills, reports said.

About 2,000 demonstrators marched at Halifax, west Yorkshire, about 200 miles (320km) north of London, the British Broadcasting Corp. said. Demonstrators were shown tossing their poll tax bills into a contained fire.

In nearby York, organisers told the BBC that they burned about 100 poll tax forms to show their contempt for the community charge — a highly unpopular new tax went into effect April 1 in England and Wales.

Similar demonstrations were reported in Brighton, Bath and Tunbridge Wells but with no reports of public disorder, the BBC said.

Sandinistas accuse rebels of attacking troops: Contras vow to remain armed

LOS CHILES, Nicaragua, April 15. (AP) The outgoing Sandinista government accused Contra rebels yesterday of attacking government troops, just days after UN peacekeepers arrived in Honduras to oversee the disbanding of the rebels.

The Contras did not immediately respond to the Sandinista allegation. But a Contra rebel commander said this week his forces would remain armed until the Sandinistas surrendered all power.

Jose Saez Montenegro, who leads more than 700 Contras and goes by the nom-de-guerre Commander Chilamate, said his forces would not give up

until the incoming government of Violeta Barrios de Chamorro has taken over.

"The Sandinistas must first turn over their arms because they could wipe out the rebels," the 32-year-old rebel commander told the Associated Press in an interview Thursday in Los Chiles, a mountain town 130 miles (200 kilometres) northeast of Managua.

Chamorro, won election Feb 25, is scheduled to be inaugurated president April 25. But the Sandinistas, led by President Daniel Ortega, have not set a firm date for relinquishing control over the military.

The Sandinistas, have warned that if the US-

America

Christian science manslaughter trial:

The case of a couple charged with killing their son by practicing their faith may force jurors to choose between protecting religious freedom and preserving the state's right to protect helpless children.

Jury selection begins Tuesday in Boston in the trial of David and Ginger Twichell, a couple accused of manslaughter in the death of their 2-1/2-year-old son, Rohyn.

The boy died in 1986 after his parents — Christian scientists who rely on spiritual healing rather than medical intervention — rejected medical care in favour of attempt to heal him through prayer.

The Twichells' defense lawyers are basing their case on a 1971 Massachusetts state law that prohibits a child from being deemed neglected or lacking proper care solely because he is provided treatment "by spiritual means alone" through the practice of a recognised religious denomination. (UPI)

Border open to limited traffic: Engineers pored over a Canadian customs station Saturday, searching for structural damage from a late Friday earthquake that made the building "groan," and the border was reopened to limited truck traffic.

"Engineers from public works Canada are going over the building this morning," said Deville McCrea, district customs manager at the Pacific highway border crossing. "There have been reports that the structure is on the verge of collapsing, but so far, we haven't seen any damage. There was a lot of movement in this facility last night, it made the walls groan."

The area of main concern was a roofed causeway under which northbound cars and trucks must pass over the border from Washington to British Columbia.

Traffic was diverted from the Pacific highway crossing in the Interstate 5 crossing at Sumas, Washington, and another, smaller crossing at Sallis, Washington, after the 10:33 pm quake, which registered 5.1 on the Richter Scale. (UPI)

Problems with women in space seen:

The Soviet Union has not sent women into space since 1984 because of the demanding nature of cosmonaut work and the potential for "moral and ethical problems," an official said Friday.

Alexander Alexandrov, head of the Soviet civil cosmonauts' training programme, told the official Tass news agency that although the Soviets were the first to send a woman to space — launching Valentina Tereshkova in 1962 — more recent developments such as space walks have made the work of a cosmonaut more difficult.

"This is demanding work even for men," said Alexandrov, who took two space walks while he was a cosmonaut. "Practically every expedition now involves space walks."

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration routinely includes women in US space shuttle crews and does not prohibit women from space walks. (UPI)

Hubble batteries for recharging: Space agency officials opened Discovery's payload bay doors Saturday to remove a telescope's batteries for recharging and to replace a faulty part in preparation for an April 25 launch.

Technicians took out a faulty auxiliary power unit responsible for grounding the shuttle last week. A new unit was being installed to be tested Sunday and fired up briefly later this week.

"We haven't run into any problem," said Lisa Malone, a spokeswoman for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. "We're looking good for the 25th."

The Hubble space telescope's six nickel-hydrogen batteries will be recharged for 5-1/2 days. (AP)

Asia

Vietnam urges US ties: Vietnam urged the United States to normalise relations with Hanoi to match the desire of the US businessmen to economically revive the war-torn country, official Radio Hanoi said.

Vietnam radio, monitored in Bangkok late Wednesday, said the Southeast Asian of 64 million has improved its relations with Western countries except the United States since Hanoi announced its last troops left Cambodia in September after 10 years.

"Even with the United States, though there (are) no official relations, the two countries have co-operation at high levels which gained initial results," the radio said.

It said US businessmen and congressmen want the United States to consider normalisation with Vietnam in order to participate in petroleum investment, construction, tourism and trade with Vietnam. (UPI)

Malaysia Aids cases doubling: The number of Aids cases in Malaysia is doubling every four months and the figure could rise to 1,000 this year, according to a senior doctor in Kuala Lumpur. The (MMA) Dr N. Subramaniam told it is important to check the disease early because of the dramatic increase.

He said official statistics showed 309 people in the country have been infected with the Aids virus.

He added the MMA is planning a nationwide Aids education campaign for medical staff like doctors and nurses to help control the disease. (Kuna)

Indonesia to get IGGI aid: Indonesia should get its same amount of international aid this



Ready to fire

A member of the Colombian highway trained Elna Corps, with his gun ready to fire, patrols a residential area in Medellin on Saturday. Some 30 officers have been killed in the last month in Colombia reportedly by drug traffickers. The authorities say the capture of drug dealer Pablo Escobar is imminent. (Reuters wirephoto)



Reagan addresses

Former president Ronald Reagan addresses the crowd during an April 12 ceremony in which a 6,000 pound piece of the Berlin Wall (above, right) was donated to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Foundation. (Reuters wirephoto)

Soviet gas leak

Dozens hurt

MOSCOW, April 15. (Reuters) A valve at a chemical plant in the Armenian capital of Yerevan exploded, spewing poisonous chloroprene gas into the air and forcing the evacuation of dozens of residents to hospital, local activists said.

A spokeswoman for the unofficial Armenian National Movement said the accident occurred at the city's Nairit chemical plant yesterday morning.

She said people from the surrounding neighbourhood were rushed to hospital, while others were treated on the scene.

There were no immediate reports of deaths and the leak was brought under control, she said.

year despite concerns over its human rights record, the chairman of an international oversight committee said Saturday in concluding a 10-day visit in Jakarta.

JP Frank, the Netherlands' development minister and currently chairman of 'Inter-Governmental Group on Indonesia', said he will recommend Jakarta receive at least its full annual share of \$4.3 billion in aid when IGGI member countries meet in June.

'Killer bees' expected in US

'Bees to buzz into Texas any day'

WESLACO, April 15. (AP) The first Africanized honey bees will arrive in the United States any day now, but scientists say the worst sting of the "killer bees" may be economic.

Researchers predict the bees will likely enter near the Mexican border city of Brownsville, Texas. In November, the bees were spotted 150 miles (240 kilometres) south of the US border at Soto La Marina, Mexico.

None has been found near the border since, but their advance accretes with spring, said Anita Collins, a bee researcher at the US Department of Agriculture's honey bee research lab at Weslaco.

These bees, descended from a

tough African strain, have been spreading across South and Central America and Mexico since they escaped from a Brazilian research programme in 1957.

Along the way they've killed an estimated 600 people, mostly in tropical South America, earning their ominous nickname.

An Africanized bee's sting is no worse than a European bee's, but they were tagged "killers" because they tend to protect their colonies at the slightest disturbance, sending hundreds or thousands of defenders against intruders.

Africanized bees abscond from hives to form new colonies more regularly than the European honey

bees commonly used in the Americas for pollinating crops and producing honey.

The difficulty of managing Africanized bees eventually will cost US beekeepers \$20 million to \$30 million a year, the US Department of Agriculture estimates.

Africanized bees also are expected to reduce bee-pollinated crop production by five per cent to 10 per cent, costing farmers more than \$40 million a year.

US residents along the border aren't likely to notice much change beyond seeing more wild colonies and swarms of bees looking for nest sites, said Ms Collins.

backed Contras refuse to disband, the transition to Chamorro's leadership could be threatened.

Nicaragua's Defence Ministry alleged yesterday that Contras had attacked government troops on Wednesday about 80 miles (130 kilometres) north of the capital in Esteli province.

The Sandinista statement said three rebels died and two government soldiers were wounded in the attack. However, a British journalist quoted peasants in the province as saying that four Sandinista soldiers and one rebel were killed.

Israel Galeano, the Contra military leader known as Commander Franklyn, recently said in Honduras that his troops would continue fighting in this country.

Galeano was quoted as saying that he didn't believe the Chamorro government would be able to control the military, despite promises by the Sandinistas not to continue to exert political sway over the army.

Saez said: "Our brother fighters have complete confidence in Franklyn's decision. He will guide us in the mountains where we are."

JAN 1990

US army to cut troops under budget plan

WASHINGTON, April 15. (Agencies): The US army would cut a quarter of its uniformed troops by 1997 and end or reduce 34 of its purchasing programmes under a budget plan approved last week, the Washington Post reported today.

Quoting an unnamed Pentagon official, the Post said the plan would cut the active-duty army from its present level of 764,000 to 580,000 troops under a five-year budget proposal.

Reserve and national guard forces would be cut from 776,000 to 645,000.

The official said the procurement programmes affected range from minor systems to major weapons but he declined to specify them.

The report did not give a figure for how much might be saved under the proposed budget for the 1992-97 fiscal years.

An army spokesman could not immediately be reached for confirmation.

The proposed budget was approved last week by Army Secretary Michael Stone and Army Chief of Staff General

Carl Vuono and has been sent on to Defence Secretary Richard Cheney, the newspaper said.

The Bush administration has proposed a \$306 billion military budget for the 1991 fiscal year.

The administration has been under congressional pressure to cut defence spending because of an apparently reduced Soviet military threat.

Troop and procurement decisions are the major part of the recommendations that Cheney has ordered the army to provide by the end of this month for

the 1992-97 Pentagon spending plan. The budget goes to Congress later this year or next year.

In hot pursuit of a so-called "peace dividend" amid lessened superpower tension, some lawmakers have called for cutbacks or even outright cancellation of high-cost weapons programmes, such as the \$530 million B-2 Stealth bomber. But savings can't be

gleaned as quickly from long-term weapons programmes as they can from personnel accounts because weaponry costs are stretched over a period of

many years.

So that leaves the manpower-intensive army, with the largest segment of the nation's 2.1 million-member military force, as the biggest target for possible budget savings.

"It's painful," said one senior department planner who is knowledgeable about the army's proposal. "It took some gut-wrenching decisions. But at least we have a plan."

Another source, who also spoke privately, said the proposal was forced upon the service by "fiscal reality,"

even as he expressed concerns about pressures to go beyond the \$80,000 level.

"That would bring us pretty close to a dysfunctional army," he said, given the national security requirement for a "trained and ready" force.

The senior official did not say how much savings were being projected from the manpower cut. It is difficult to project near-term savings from force reductions because of the possibility that severance pay may be allocated to more senior veterans and women.

Pope opens Easter vigil

VATICAN CITY, April 15. (AP): Pope John Paul II ushered in Christianity's holiest day in the light of small candles held by thousands of faithful at Easter vigil services last night in St Peter's Basilica.

Preceded by cardinals and bishops in a slow procession toward the altar, the Pope carried before him a long white candle he lit to open the service commemorating the night Jesus Christ rose from the dead after his crucifixion.

The cavernous St Peter's Basilica, the largest church in Christendom, was dark and silent late yesterday as the procession moved toward the altar under the "Baldacchino," the baroque canopy designed by 17th century sculptor Gian Lorenzo Bernini.

After the third chanting of the "Lumen Christi" (Light of Christ), the congregation began lighting candles to symbolize the "pilgrimage from darkness to light."

Earlier Saturday, the Polish-born Pope met with an aide to Mikhail Gorbachev one day after the Soviet President threatened to impose an economic blockade on the rebellious Baltic Republic of Lithuania.

A Vatican spokesman, Monsignor Piero Pennacchini, said the 30-minute private audience was requested by Vadim Zagladin, a special adviser to Gorbachev. But the spokesman did not say whether it touched on the crisis in Lithuania, which declared independence from Moscow on March 11.

Casimir Lazarauskas, an official of the Lithuanian mission to the Holy See, said he had been informed by "informal contacts" that the pontiff's meeting included a discussion of Lithuania, but there were no details.

The Pope also sent an Easter message to Lithuania, which is 80 per cent Roman Catholic.

Mandela admits torture allegation

ANC dissidents anxious to return home

JOHANNESBURG, April 15. (Agencies): Nelson Mandela admitted yesterday that his African National Congress tortured dissident guerrillas, but said the officials involved were punished and a ban placed on any further torture.

Mandela, who made the surprising admission in a brief airport statement, said the claims of some ANC guerrillas that they had been tortured was true. He deplored the incident and promised it would not happen again.

Unfortunately, it is true that some of these people who have complained were in fact tortured. But once the ANC became aware...

(of) these malpractices, immediate steps were taken to discipline those who were guilty of torturing other people," he said.

Seven former South African guerrillas who say they were tortured by ANC commanders as mutineers said that they are anxious to return home after seeking sanctuary in Kenya early this year.

"We're still waiting for word when we can go," Luvo Mbengo, 28, one of the African National Congress recruits, told the Associated Press. "But we still don't know what our future is."

The seven, aged between 28 and 33, also say they fear for the fate of

100 to 120 fellow ANC dissidents being detained at guerrilla training camps in Angola and at Mbarara, southwest Uganda.

Mandela did not specify the punishment inflicted on those responsible for the torture, but he said the commanders of the camp where the torture took place had been dismissed.

"The ANC is against torture or any form of coercion in order to extract information from those who are suspected of having broken the laws and the regulations which they are required to obey," he said.

Mandela made the unexpected admission in an unprompted statement before departing for London, where he is to be guest of honour at a rock concert to celebrate his release from jail. He declined to answer any questions.

Seven former guerrillas said they were tortured by ANC commanders at two punishment camps in Angola called Pango and Qatara.

The former guerrillas said in Nairobi yesterday that they were tied to trees and flogged with whips, locked into metal transport containers that were left out in the sun and beaten and kicked by ANC commanders and their jailers.

The seven were attached to the ANC's military wing, Umkhonto We Sizwe (spear of the nation), in Angola.

They said they mutinied against their leaders in 1984, were held in detention centers and Angolan prisons for four years and then moved to a Daka camp in Tanzania after being freed on "humanitarian" grounds.

They said they quit the military wing in Tanzania last December and fled to Nairobi. These seven say they want to return to South Africa.

Mandela attempted to minimize the incident by saying that South Africa's white-minority government routinely tortured and killed opponents. He said the ANC did not tolerate torture and stopped it immediately when the incidents were exposed.

"Large numbers of our people have been tortured and killed by the government. They are still being tortured today despite all our protests," he said.

A government commission has uncovered widespread evidence that South African police and military units systematically killed dissidents. The commission is still in progress and the government has not taken any official action on the charges.

Mandela also said the dissidents were not complaining against the ANC or himself, but against the security wing of the black nationalist organization.

"The ANC has responded, as any responsible organization will do when they discover such malpractices," he said.

Mandela made the statement after a brief airport meeting with European Community officials, who visited South Africa to assess political conditions.

Liberian rebel chief besieged

MONROVIA, Liberia, April 15. (AP): Government forces tracked down guerrilla leader Charles Taylor and surrounded his hiding place yesterday, a senior officer said.

"Even if he (Taylor) escapes, we will go after him. And any other person who replaces him will also be killed," Brig. Gen. Charles Jusu said.

There was no independent confirmation of the government claim. Jusu also said his troops killed 100 rebels when they tried to retake Ganta, capital of embattled Nimba county.

Rebels led by Taylor invaded Nimba county from neighbouring Ivory Coast last Dec 24 in a bid to topple Liberian President Samuel Doe.

The fighting has forced more than 150,000 people to flee the country for Ivory Coast and Guinea.

International organisations have accused Liberian troops of slaying hundreds of civilians in trying to put down the rebellion. Guerrilla forces were accused of killing members of Doe's Krahn tribe in reprisal for the government killings.

Black infighting

20 killed in Natal

JOHANNESBURG, April 15. (UPI): Clashes broke out in the strife-torn province of Natal over the weekend, leaving at least 20 dead, including five killed when gunmen opened fire on people attending a funeral, police said today.

An official police statement reported 10 violent incidents in the past 24 hours, all but one in Natal province, but gave only scant details. In the worst incident, 10 blacks were killed and two injured "in what appeared to be faction fighting" in the area of Ngubela, about 30 miles (50 km) inland from the southeastern Indian Ocean coastal town of Port Shepstone, the police report said.

In the area of Ngqousheni, also near Port Shepstone, the burnt body of a black woman was found.

Five others died in Ngilayeni when "shots were fired at a group of funeral goers," the report said. It said the shooting appeared to have been provoked by a land dispute.

Two other blacks were found burned to death and another black man shot to death was found in the black township of Mpumalanga midway between the Natal provincial capital of Pietermaritzburg and the port city of Durban.

Easter relief convoy

ADDISABABA, April 15. (Reuters): A consortium of church relief agencies will send an Easter relief convoy across Ethiopia's war-ravaged roads today in a trial run to extend its operation deeper into rebel-held territory.

Francis Stephanos, co-ordinator of the Joint Relief Partnership (JRP), told Reuters yesterday that 10 trucks with 110 tonnes of food will venture north to Mekele, the provincial capital of northern Tigray province, past bombed bridges and around

flooded roads badly damaged by civil war.

A United Nations crew has been preparing detours with a bulldozer and will be on hand to pull trucks out of mud.

The trek to Mekele, 275 km (170 miles) behind the front lines will mark the deepest foray yet into rebel territory for the JRP, which aims to deliver 130,000 tonnes of relief food to famine victims in northern Ethiopia this year.



Mandela speaks to reporters April 14 after a meeting with senior EEC representative. At right is Irish Foreign Minister Garard Collins. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mandela in UK for concert

Declines invitation to meet Thatcher

LONDON, April 15. (Reuters): Nelson Mandela arrived in Britain by air from South Africa today to attend an internationally-televised London concert marking his release from jail.

Tomorrow's Wembley stadium rock concert in his honour, to be attended by 70,000 supporters, is Mandela's main official engagement during a brief stay in Britain, his first visit since 1962.

The African National Congress (ANC) leader has rejected an open invitation to meet British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, demonstrating the ANC's anger at her decision to lift some anti-apartheid sanctions in response to his release from jail in February.

Before his departure yesterday, he acknowledged that the ANC, the main organisation fighting white minority rule in South Africa, had tortured dissident members.

Looking slightly tired on arrival in London, Mandela, 71, accompanied by his wife Winnie and aides, planned a busy weekend schedule culminating in tomorrow's pop concert.

He told reporters: "It is an honour and a pleasure far me and my delegation to be in British soil. We have always looked forward to this occasion when we can thank the British people for the support for which they have given us in the course of our anti-apartheid struggle."

RENAULT 21

Symphonie

Now at **KD 3925**

NO DOWN PAYMENT

FIRST INSTALLMENT AFTER 3 MONTHS

SALARY AND CHEQUES TRANSFER ARE NOT REQUIRED

VALUABLE FREE GIFT

GENEROUS TRADE IN VALUE



In Participation With KAWAT FINANCE HOUSE

بوداي موتورز
BOODAI MOTORS

For more information, please call
Renault showrooms.
Shuwaikh - Airport Road Tel: 4843986
Kuwait - Arabian Gulf Street. Tel: 2423999.

THERE'S MORE TO LIFE WITH
RENAULT

REQUIRED

Airconditioning
mechanic
part or full time

Call Tel. 4815517,
4819144

NILFISK



This multi-purpose vacuum cleaner is equipped with numerous attachments for the complete cleaning of your home from ceiling to floor.

The Nilfisk vacuum cleaner - a handy machine with many cleaning possibilities.

Available at

مرفع
MARAFIE SONS CO.
Sharq Showroom
Ahmed Al-Jaber St., Sharq
Tel. 2443925/27 Ext. 302

Marafie Cleaning Center
Zahra Complex, Salmiya
Tel: 5753927

INTERNATIONAL

Aussies to mark Anzac spirit

SYDNEY, April 15, (Reuters): Later this month 51 frail old men will travel halfway around the world to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the most emotive battle in Australia's history, Gallipoli.

Prime Minister Bob Hawke will join the veterans on the barren peninsula in the Dardanelles where 8,000 Australian soldiers died in a vain attempt to open the way to Istanbul and knock German ally Turkey out of World War One.

"Anzac (Australia and New Zealand Army Corps) stood, and still stands, for reckless valour in a good cause, for enterprise, resourcefulness, fidelity, comradeship and endurance that will never own defeat," states Australia's official war history.

For many ex-servicemen the dawn service and wreath-laying at the lone pine cemetery on Gallipoli, where many of the Australian dead lie, will revive old and often painful memories.

John McCleery, wounded at Gallipoli, will celebrate his 103rd birthday on Anzac day, April 25, a national holiday in Australia.

"We had been there for 10 days (when) my arm was shattered," McCleery said. "I collapsed and lost consciousness and woke up after four days on a hospital ship. I'm 102 now so my memory is going a bit and this will help bring things back."

All of the Australians were volunteers. Some died about their age to join up. Many had little training before being shipped off to Egypt en route to Gallipoli and a first taste of action. April 25 was the day they stormed ashore.

"The landing was terrible, it was hell on earth," says Les Hales. "For three days we did not know where we were. Gunfire, shrapnel, things on fire, oh dear it was terrible."

The first wave of Australians landed more than one km (nearly a mile) north of where they should have at what is now called Anzac Cove. Instead of open country they faced scrub-covered cliffs and withering Turkish gunfire.

British, French, Indian and other troops went ashore at other points on the peninsula.

Eventually the allied troops established a beachhead and a stalemate, punctuated by bouts of vicious fighting, ensued. Conditions were tough.

"We dug out holes in the trenches for a sleep but they were often full of water," Hales said in an interview. "After about six weeks the Turks did not shell so much but waited until late in the afternoon before starting."

"The latrines were just holes in the ground out in the open with a bar across to hold on to. Sometimes they (the Turks) would catch four or five poor sods out in the open and they would be blown straight in."

George Abraham was at Gallipoli for three months, was evacuated to Cairo with pneumonia and then sent back when he recovered.



Young pioneers holding flags and flowers walk past a soldier guarding the monument to the People's Hero in Beijing's Tiananmen Square yesterday. The quiet ceremony marked the death anniversary of former party chief Hu Yaobang as security around the area remained tight to prevent protests similar to last year. (Reuters wirephoto)



Soldiers march through Beijing's Tiananmen Square on Saturday the day before the anniversary of last year's democracy protests which began with the death of former party secretary Hu Yaobang. Security around Beijing is heavy as the government prepares to prevent similar incidents. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cambodia peace overture: Visiting Thai Prime Minister Chuanrich Chuanrich has called for talks between the leader of the Vietnam-backed Cambodian government and ousted Prince Norodom Sihanouk to restore peace in the Indo-Chinese country. Kyodo news service reported.

Chuanrich set forth the proposal in an interview with Kyodo Saturday, the major Japanese news agency said.

"I think the agreements, if they agree, between (Cambodian Prime Minister) Hun Sen and Sihanouk might be the key to opening the gate to peace in Cambodia," the Thai leader was quoted as saying.

"The best way for a solution is step-by-step process," he added. (UPI)

Tonga coup story: An anti-communist Catholic and three Pentecostals say Tongan cops, some Europeans and supernatural forces are out to get King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV.

Police Minister 'Akou'ola deported the four from Tonga after they warned the king of a coup attempt they said was planned for April 6. But they still maintain that senior Tongan police and soldiers with assistance from Europeans and supernatural forces are intent on overthrowing the monarch of the Pacific's only kingdom. (Reuters)

Seoul rivals fight for control: Two rival factions continued to struggle for control of South Korea's governing party on Thursday, with one group calling for the removal of one of President Roh Tae-woo's most trusted aides.

The faction, led by former opposition leader Kim Young-Sam, who joined the governing group in a party merger earlier this year, demanded the firing of Park Chul-Un, a Roh confidant, as state minister.

Park, a distant relative of Roh, created an uproar early this week by publicly accusing Kim of maneuvering to take control of the governing Democratic Liberal Party at a national convention early next month. (AP)

Burma military not likely to quit: Burma's military has indicated it will not relinquish power soon after the election it has promised next month, Western diplomats said Friday.

A report in the state-controlled Working People's daily on Thursday quoted Burma's intelligence chief as saying a transfer of power would not take place until a new constitution is in place.

"The cabinet cannot be formed just after the election... the cabinet is to be formed in consonance with the constitution," the Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt said. (AP)

China warns ethnic rioters

BEIJING, April 15, (Reuters): China has warned against regional separatism and ordered efforts to ensure stability along its remote northwest frontier — days after reports of ethnic unrest among Muslims in the sensitive Xinjiang region.

A senior Communist Party official in a televised speech from the regional capital Urumqi on Friday warned separatists not to threaten China's unity and stability.

The official did not refer directly to reported unrest near the ancient silk road city Kashgar last week when about 50 people, mostly Muslims of the ethnic Kirghiz minority, were said to have been killed in clashes with security forces.

Foreigners have been barred from the area and China's official media have made no mention of any unrest.

A regional deputy party leader, not identified in remarks monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, told local organizations to "safeguard stability and unity and ensure the stability of the border areas."

"Various negative factors" should be "resolutely eliminated," he said.

"Anyone who undermines (stability and unity) is lifting a rock only to drop it on his own feet," he said.

"We should strengthen the socialist legal system and bring into further play the dictatorial function of the state," he said.

Accounts vary over the cause of the violence, with some local people in Urumqi, about 1,000 km (600 miles) away, saying it was over the introduction of new identity cards and others maintaining the dispute centred on religious restrictions.

The party official described the economic and political situation in Xinjiang as "relatively good."

A vast region covering an area three times the size of France, Xinjiang is home to about 15 million people, about half of them Muslims who trace their ancestry to Turkic not Chinese origins.

Xinjiang has a long history of bloody conflicts between contending powers. Sporadic rebellions and protests against Chinese rule have erupted since the 1949 communist revolution.

Focus of the dying stages of the "great game" between contending powers Britain and Russia in the early years of this century, Xinjiang is China's strategic gateway to the West, bordering Mongolia, the Soviet Union, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India.

In southern Okinawa, most parents and students in one high school refused to stand in front of the flag, forcing the schoolmaster to take it down from the auditorium stage.

Similar incidents were reported at many ceremonies across Okinawa. Japan's southernmost prefecture and the most vocal area opposing the symbols. Tens of thousands of islanders died at the hands of Japanese soldiers during World War Two.

According to a 1987 ministry poll, fewer than six per cent of Okinawa schools placed the flag on stage during formal ceremonies.

"We shall take a position of mutual

China arrests lone protester

Police fill Tiananmen Square

BEIJING, April 15, (AP): A lone protester was arrested, but an overwhelming police presence discouraged other shows of dissent today on the anniversary of the beginning of last year's Student Democracy Movement.

Police took up strategic posts around Tiananmen Square, closely watching the usual Sunday crowd of Chinese from the countryside and tour groups from Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Sunday was the first anniversary of the death of former Communist Party chief Hu Yaobang, who was popular among students for his relatively liberal views.

Students took to the streets to mourn Hu and criticise the communist leadership that had ousted him from power in 1987 for failing to stop previous student demonstrations.

The street marches grew into a movement demanding democratic reform and an end to corruption that lasted for seven weeks and drew crowds of more than 1 million people. It ended when troops shot their way on to student-occupied Tiananmen Square on June 3-4, killing hundreds and perhaps thousands on the way.

The Square was open to the public Sunday, unlike on April 1 and 5 when police sealed off the plaza to block protests. Overseas dissidents had urged people to silently stroll through the Square on those days in honour of those killed last June.

The only incident Sunday occurred around 10:30 am (0130 GMT), when a man in his 30s began to pin on his sleeve white paper mourning flowers with streamers reading "To mourn Hu Yaobang" and "Heroes who die for democracy and liberty."

Police quickly arrested the man, who told onlookers he was a scientist from the southern province of Guizhou who had come to Beijing "to mourn our great general secretary (Hu)."

The man, who was not identified, was earlier stopped by police when he tried to mount the steps of the monument to revolutionary heroes in the middle of the square. He carried suitcases and said he had come to Beijing with everything he owned in anticipation of being arrested.

He was driven away in a police jeep. Police also confiscated three videos from a television crew from the US television network CNN, which taped the arrest, but returned them an hour later. CNN Beijing bureau chief Mike Chinoy said police described the man as being mentally disturbed.

Some 20 police stood guard around the monument throughout the day, forbidding entry. The monument, usually open, was covered with wreaths last year brought by students and others to mourn Hu. It also was the headquarters for student leaders during their occupation of the 40-hectare (100-acre) square last May and June.

The only people allowed on the monument were six middle-school children carrying flags of the Young Pioneers, a youth group that provides ideological and moral training.

Buses and vans loaded with police were parked around the monument, and dozens of uniformed and plainclothes police patrolled the Square.

During the afternoon, soldiers stationed in the history museum east of the Square since the crackdown last June could be seen conducting drills in the museum parking lot. They shouted in unison while making rifle thrusts and parries.

The Bush administration, dissatisfied over the continuing political crackdown in China, barred Chinese scientists and economists from this week's White House conference on global change.

The two-day conference, which will be opened Tuesday by President Bush in Washington, fulfils an August 1988 campaign promise to call an international meeting to discuss the scientific and economic implications of global warming.

In his campaign speech, Bush said he would invite representatives of other countries including the Soviet Union and China to the meeting.

But the Chinese will be conspicuously absent when some 200 scientists and economists from 17 nations and the European Economic Community gather this week in Washington for the conference.

Some of the writing that gushed out of last spring's demonstrations in Beijing's Tiananmen Square has been saved for historians by an intrepid American collector.



Police arrest a man who displayed a memorial wreath and armband in Beijing's Tiananmen Square yesterday on the death anniversary of former party chief Hu Yaobang and last year's democracy protests. The man was taken away by police. (Reuters wirephoto)

China dissident reappears

Call for curbs

PARIS, April 15, (UPI): Chai Ling, a leader of the Beijing democracy movement that ended in bloodshed on Tiananmen Square last June, re-emerged from hiding in Paris yesterday and called on Western nations to impose tougher economic and political sanctions on the Chinese government.

In an interview with the French daily Le Monde and several foreign newspapers at an undisclosed Paris hotel, Chai gave a detailed account of her 10-month trek across China during which she was helped and encouraged by ordinary Chinese citizens who were aware that the government was trying to capture her.

"We received support and protection all along," Chai, who became 24 years-old today, said. "Those who helped us had their own problems, but they did everything to make things easier for us."

"I cannot tell you if they were officials or not," Chai, speaking through an interpreter, said of those who had helped her and her husband Feng Congde, 24, escape to the West.

The former psychology student's comments indicated that opponents of the hardline communist government are continuing to escape from China despite widespread repression and the dismantling late last year of an underground network that permitted dozens of dissidents to flee to Hong Kong and Macao.

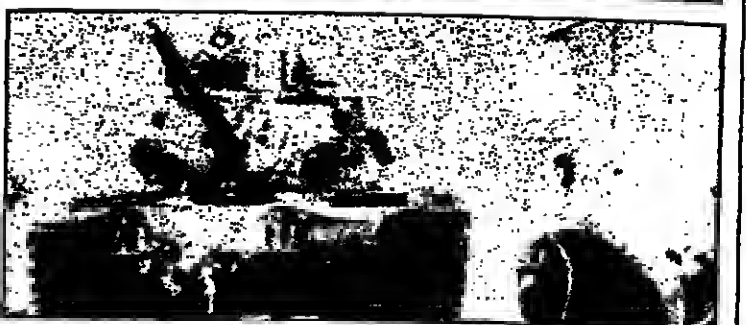
Chai said that although the student movement was brutally crushed by army troops on the night of June 3-4 last year, her country has been transformed forever.

"Silence appears to weigh on China today, but the mentality of the people has changed," she said.

The presence of the two leading Chinese dissidents in the French capital is likely to lead to a further chill in relations between Paris and Beijing, which has formally protested the French government's decision to allow Chai and Feng to enter the country two weeks ago. The two dissidents figure prominently on Beijing's list of most wanted criminals.

In addition, Paris has steadfastly refused demands from the Beijing government that it outlaw a foundation that is financing a boat to beam radio broadcasts off the Chinese coast.

The ship, baptized "the goddess of democracy," sailed from the French port of La Rochelle on March 17 with several Chinese dissidents among its passengers and is scheduled to begin broadcasting later this month. The project's sponsors claim that the sophisticated electronic equipment on board will permit the more than one billion mainland Chinese to listen to its news and music programmes.



'Fierce Tiger' Top: Taiwan Defence Minister Heu Pal-Tsun (centre, black suit, white shirt) and ranking members of the island's military inspect some 100 new locally produced M4BH battle tanks on Saturday. The tanks dubbed 'Fierce Tiger' were co-produced by Taiwan and the US defence contractor General Dynamics. Bottom: M4BH battle tank is stationed at a military base. (Reuters wirephoto)

Rising sun flag mandatory

Decree fuels debate

TOKYO, April 15, (Reuters): The Japanese Education Ministry's decree making it mandatory to fly the rising sun flag and sing the national anthem at classroom ceremonies is being denounced as pupil indoctrination aimed at reviving militarism.

The ministry protests that the row has been blown out of all proportion.

"This is nothing but an attempt to teach respect for your own country's flags and anthem, which in turn would lead to respect for the same symbols of other countries," a senior official involved in promulgating the decree said.

"Germany changed its flag, and so did Italy," said a spokesman for the leftist Japan Teachers Union, one of the most militant in the country. "Japan is the only (former Axis) country still clinging to pre-war symbols even after the adoption of a democratic constitution."

Until April 1, when the decree went into effect, schools were free to choose whether or not to use the flag and anthem at school ceremonies.

The problem lies in the fact that flag and anthem have no legal or constitutional status as national symbols. The government has always avoided legislating on the subject for fear of an all-out ideological confrontation.

But the Education Ministry's attempt to rule on the issue once and for all, using a decree that can be imposed without parliamentary debate, has brought accusations it has acted illegally.

According to the ministry official, however, "more than 70 or 80 per cent of Japanese, in various polls, have accepted them as the national flag and anthem."

When the vexing subject hit the headlines in past years, radical students often turned to violent protests that would amount to desecration in other countries, burning the flag or throwing it into a ditch.

The ministry is familiar with controversy. In the early 1980s, its approval against its neighbours earlier this century sparked a row with China

and both Koreas. Censors had forced textbook writers to refer to Japanese invasions before 1945 as "intrusions" or "advances."

"The textbook row and flag issue have the same roots, the rampant revisionism within the Ministry of Education," the union spokesman said.

The "hinomaru" flag, meaning, "sun circle or emblem," with a red circle or white, has been used, off and on, to identify Japan's merchant and official ships since the eighth century.

But during the period of Japan's military expansion into Asia in the first half of this century, the flag was widely seen as a symbol of the country's hated militarism.

Even more controversial, perhaps, is the slow anthem called "kimigayo," meaning "the reign of your majesty" in which the words, in ancient Japanese, laud the emperor and hope his rule may last forever.

Many Japanese, especially the younger generation, do not know the full words to the song and even if they did, few would understand what they meant. "Sovereignty belongs to the people, not to the emperor," the union spokesman said.

"The emperor is the symbol of the people," the military man said, quoting the first article of the post-war constitution. "The anthem doesn't necessarily mean emperor worship after the pattern of the wartime leaders."

In southern Okinawa, most parents and students in one high school refused to stand in front of the flag, forcing the schoolmaster to take it down from the auditorium stage.

Similar incidents were reported at many ceremonies across Okinawa. Japan's southernmost prefecture and the most vocal area opposing the symbols. Tens of thousands of islanders died at the hands of Japanese soldiers during World War Two.

According to a 1987 ministry poll, fewer than six per cent of Okinawa schools placed the flag on stage during formal ceremonies.

Mongolian Communist Party chief wants to work with opposition for reform

ULAN BATOR, Mongolia, April 15, (AP): Communist Party chief Gombogayn Ochirbat says he wants to work with new opposition parties in introducing a democratic reform.

New members of the party's policy-making Central Committee on Friday elected Ochirbat to the post he first was given one month ago after opposition protests forced out the old party leadership.

"We shall take a position of mutual

understanding, co-operate with (the opposition) and hold political dialogue," Ochirbat told a television interviewer Friday night at the conclusion of an extraordinary party congress.

The opposition group, inspired by the fall of communism elsewhere in the Soviet bloc, has emerged since December to demand a share of power. This herding nation has been ruled for nearly seven decades by the Communist Party, formally known as the Mongolian Peoples

Revolutionary Party.

In a session that ended before dawn Friday, the extraordinary congress elected the new Central Committee, paring it down from 146 members to 91. It also rewrote the party constitution to make it more democratic.

The new Central Committee met immediately to confirm Ochirbat in his post. It also reappointed four other members of the party's top decision-making body, the politburo, and added a sixth

member, Sumya, who was culture minister until mid-week.

The Central Committee gave the politburo a new name, the Presidium, but did not change its basic function or powers.

The new party constitution, however, abolishes the formal requirement of absolute obedience to the centre, and allows local party bodies to raise objections to orders from the top. It also gives them a small degree of financial independence.

Euphoria of Havel's reforms has gone

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia, April 15, (AP): The euphoria of President Vaclav Havel's fairy-tale journey from prison to the Prague castle has evaporated.

The writer and his entourage of former dissidents and underground artists introduced a fresh morality to politics at home and abroad and garnered ovations from Washington to Moscow.

But now, domestic worries are coming to the forefront after the revolution that ousted a repressive communist regime.

Czechs and Slovaks squabbled over the country's name. Government economists split over how quickly to rush for a free market. And the groups that powered the revolution began running rival campaigns for the June 8 elections.

Havel, laid low by a hernia operation, admitted in a national radio address April 1 that "the time of elation and happiness stemming from the fact that everyone can say what they want has come to an end."

"The time has come when we will really have to do something with the freedom," he stressed.

As elsewhere in Eastern Europe, Czechoslovakia's transition from Stalinism to democracy is makeshift, bending the classic rules of parliamentary pluralism.

Thus, for instance, hasty all-party agreement was reached to remove dozens of communist deputies in Parliament, replacing them to ensure the non-communist majority needed to pass reforms before June.

Such solutions are being improvised across Eastern Europe to remove communism's legacy as painlessly as possible. Everywhere, they are hampered by ethnic strife and a sharp drop in worker output. Everywhere they are marked by a political shift to the right.

Better off Czechoslovakia is better off than most. The strife between Czechs and Slovaks has not exploded in ethnic violence; the economy, while lagging behind countries Czechoslovakia was stripped 50 years ago, is not burdened by heavy debt.

But the hundreds of potential Western investors flocking to Prague are still waiting for new laws liberalising the flow of foreign capital. Unlike Hungary, Czechoslovakia has not even begun to establish capitalist economic tools like new banks or a fledgling stock market.

A senior economist with strong ties to the government says reform is hindered by a sharp division between Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus, who wants to go all-out for capitalism; and others, including Havel, who fear the social consequences.

The coming campaign may colour those fears. Christian Democrats romped to success in free elections in East Germany and Hungary. A similar coalition in Czechoslovakia can count on strong support in heavily Roman Catholic Slovakia, and a possible boost from the April 21-22 visit of Pope John Paul II.

For now, Havel's Civic Forum and its Slovak partner public against violence top opinion polls, with about 20 per cent. The communists — who still claim 1 million members in a country of 15.5 million — hold second place at around 11 per cent.

That has shaken Civic Forum into a vigorous campaign against Communist Party retention of buildings and other assets seized during 41 years in power.

For the first time since December, tens of thousands massed in Wenceslas Square this week to back Civic Forum demands to the communists to return the property.

But the moral pull the opposition exerted to create the dignified togetherness of the revolution seems gone.

When Prague's new mayor Jaroslav Koran, a Havel appointee, summoned volunteers to clean up the city April 7, just 28 people came.

In part, this reflects how hard old habits die. In the past, the communists threatened job loss or other misfortune for failure to participate in their parades and other rituals.

Bush, Thatcher agree on Nato summit

Washington seeks Kremlin clarification on ultimatum to Lithuania

LONDON, April 15. (Agencies). President George Bush and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher agreed at their Bermuda talks on the need to hold a Nato summit soon to form a response to changing events in Europe, British officials said yesterday.

The officials, travelling with the British leader on her return to London, said the summit was likely to be held within weeks but no date or venue had been set.

"The Americans are keen to have one sooner rather than later, in the next few months

rather than towards the end of the year," a Thatcher aide told reporters aboard her aircraft.

The summit, the fourth in little more than two years, will underline West Germany's membership of the 16-nation North Atlantic Treaty Organisation during the process of German unification and tackle the issue of nuclear missiles deployed on West German soil.

"We need an early Nato summit so that as an alliance we can take stock and reach a view where we go forward," the aide

said.

He added that Bush and Thatcher agreed that such a meeting would be an "early demonstration" of Nato's determination to keep Germany as a full member after unification.

Officials said that for logistical reasons it would be impractical to expand a Nato foreign ministers' meeting scheduled for Turnberry in Scotland on June 7-8 into a full summit.

They added that Thatcher would send a report on her Friday talks with Bush to Soviet

leader Mikhail Gorbachev, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and French President Francois Mitterrand.

The aide said a Nato summit must tackle the kind of defence posture needed by the West following the opening of the Berlin Wall and the drive for democracy in Eastern Europe.

Referring to ground-based, short-range Lance nuclear missiles based in West Germany, he added: "That raises questions about the follow-on to Lance. But not about the purpose of

nuclear weapons in general. You are inevitably moving towards air-strike missiles."

This was a marked shift from Thatcher's previous insistence that Nato must stick to its commitment to modernise the Lance, despite objections from the West German government and public that their limited range meant they would land in East Germany.

Bush sought more information on Moscow's threat of economic retaliation against Lithuania as his administration weighed limited options for responding to the latest crisis.

During a rain-soaked game of golf, the Republican US President told reporters he wanted to withhold further comment on the situation until he received "a clarification" on Gorbachev's ultimatum to the independence-seeking Baltic republic.

Secretary of State James Baker, meanwhile, said the administration was taking a "wait and see" attitude.



George Bush

Lithuania looks for Western trade ties

Gorby's blockade could cause huge layoffs

MOSCOW, April 15. (Agencies). Lithuanian officials began seeking ways to survive an economic blockade threatened by President Mikhail Gorbachev as a Sunday evening deadline approached for them to rescind their declaration of independence.

The officials acknowledged yesterday that the blockade could cause huge layoffs, but said they hoped sympathetic Soviet republics would balk at cutting off crucial supplies.

Lithuanian Prime Minister Kazimira Prunskiene said the republic

had stepped up efforts to establish economic ties with the West and was negotiating with West Germany and Switzerland to print Lithuanian money in case of a blockade, the official Soviet news agency Tass said yesterday.

The President of the breakaway republic, Vytautas Landsbergis, said Lithuania also was trying to contract directly with enterprises in various parts of the Soviet Union for its supplies, according to Edward Tuskenis, a Parliament spokesman.

Germans march for peace in Easter

WEST BERLIN, April 15. (Agencies). Peace activists from both Germany demonstrated together for the first time during traditional Easter marches that began yesterday, calling on their countries "to live without armaments."

Meanwhile, East German border guards waved tens of thousands of cars through checkpoints to ease holiday traffic jams.

The shared custom of Easter marches for peace dates back to the 1950s, but protests were held separately in East and West Germany until the border opened during East Germany's revolution last fall.

East Germans were among the nearly 1,000 marchers who began a three-day march in the city of Duisburg under the slogan "to live without armaments." The demonstrators intend to march from towns to towns through the industrialised Ruhr region in West Germany.

More than 1,000 protesters set out from the East German Baltic port of Rostock for the West German port of Luebeck, demanding that a unified Germany contribute to making peace more secure in Europe.

About 5,000 residents of the East German districts of Rathenow and Havelberg, about 60 kilometres (37 miles) west of Berlin, marched to a military training field near the Elbe river demanding that trees be planted and the land reactivated.

Trust

Similar marches and rallies took place in about a dozen cities and towns throughout the two Germanys, but most of the Easter marches were scheduled for today.

In another development, East Germany's former defence minister said yesterday that the military in both Germanys should set the pace in disarmament to build trust and ease any fears in Europe about German military might, a major newspaper reported.

Theodor Hoffmann proposed that the military of both Germanys be brought closer together in the military process "building a co-operative security structure" to develop more trust between East and West Europe.

"Both Germanys should set the pace to ease tensions with drastic disarmament," as a part of bringing Europeans closer together, Neues Deutschland quoted Hoffmann as saying. "This would contribute to the people of Europe having no grounds to fear German military might."

Tens of thousands of Germans from East and West poured through the border for the second day in a row, for Easter weekend holiday trips with family and friends.

A decision by newly elected East German Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere to ease passport checks appeared to speed up the process of crossing the border.

Only 24 per cent of East Germans west of West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl to become the first leader of a united Germany, a poll out yesterday said.

The findings of the poll by the Dortmund-based Forsa Institute suggested Kohl was not the popular figure in East Germany that cheering crowds at his rallies there led people to believe.

At 46 per cent, almost twice as many opted for Oskar Lafontaine, Kohl's Social Democrat rival in West Germany's December elections.

The survey, released a day before publication by Bild Am Sonntag newspaper, gave a straight choice between the two men. Thirty per cent said they did not know whom they preferred.

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher on Saturday asked EEC member states to cancel entry visas for East German citizens as soon as possible.

Fire at old Filipino embassy

TOKYO, April 15. (AP). Love-igniters suspected arson in a fire at a former Philippines embassy building but had no evidence of it, police and fire officials said today.

No injuries were reported in the Friday fire, which destroyed a first-floor office in the former embassy building.

Condemned

Senate majority leader George Mitchell, returning on Saturday from Moscow, condemned a Soviet threat to cut off some supplies to Lithuania if the republic does not rescind its declaration of independence from the Soviet Union.

Mitchell, Democrat of Maine, who led a delegation of senate Democrats to Berlin and Moscow, characterised a two-hour meeting Thursday with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev as "frank and wide-ranging" and said the group discussed economic reform in the Soviet Union, arms control and Lithuania.

Polish chief visits Katyn

MOSCOW, April 15. (AP). Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski visited the Katyn forest yesterday, a day after Moscow confessed to the wartime massacre of thousands of Polish Army officers, and said "truth is healing the wounds."

Jaruzelski, a general in Poland's army, was accompanied by an honour guard of the Polish Army at the memorial site in the forest near the western town of Smolensk as he paid tribute to the more than 4,000 officers killed in 1940 by Stalin's secret police, the Polish PAP news agency reported.

A "roll call of the dead" was intoned — a ceremony in which the names of victims are read, PAP said.

During one stanza of the roll call they were not able to taste the joy of victory.

Then he gave the order to the honour guard: "Prepare for the appeal."

The soldiers answered in unison, "they died undefeated."

The general, wearing a green army overcoat, green scarf, a large wreath of red and white carnations and laid in front of a memorial to the dead, according to footage broadcast on Soviet TV's evening newscast.

Polish Radio reported last night that the wording on the monument was changed three days ago, removing the words that blamed Nazi Germany.

The Soviets had long said the Nazis were responsible for the massacre, in which the Polish officers were shot in the back of the head and stacked on top of each other in mass graves.

Letter solves socks shortage

MOSCOW, April 15. (AP). Don't tell 19-year-old Andrei Umrikhin that Mikhail Gorbachev and the huge Communist Party apparatus don't care about him.

But don't try to make him believe that the system really works, either.

After trying for a year and a half to buy some new socks in his small village in southern Russia, Umrikhin sent a letter directly to Gorbachev. And a little more than a month later the creaky Soviet retail system coughed up new socks not only for his family, but the whole village.

"To tell the truth, I still wonder whether it was a coincidence, or whether the socks really were from the central committee," said Umrikhin, reached by telephone in his southern Russian village of Belye near Kursk, 450 kilometres (280 miles) south of Moscow.

Gorbachev issued his ultimatum on Friday, giving Lithuania 48 hours to renounce its March 11 declaration of independence or face a cutoff of crucial supplies. But as the deadline approached, Lithuania's leaders did not appear to be cowed.

Landsbergis said the ultimatum would not even be discussed until Tuesday, since predominantly Roman Catholic Lithuania would still be celebrating the Easter holiday on Monday.

"It is impossible to give the answer in two days," he said at a televised news conference.

Landsbergis has repeatedly said the declaration of independence will not be revoked.

Sympathy for the plight of Lithuania, which has been the boldest of the secession-minded republics, was shown in none other than the Russian republic — the heart of the Soviet Union.

Some 5,000 people gathered in Leningrad outside the Czar's former winter palace, now the Hermitage museum, for a protest rally that included calls for workers to strike in support of Lithuania if Gorbachev orders a blockade, according to Leningrad journalist Maxim Korzhov.

The Kremlin has not specified exactly when the economic embargo would go into effect.

Gorbachev said the sanctions could include cutting off items that are traded for freely convertible foreign currencies. Such supplies could include all the oil and natural gas used in the small Baltic republic, as well as metal, machinery, chemicals, cotton and automobiles.

The Lithuanian parliament has said that oil and gas supplies would be critical in the drive for freedom. Buying them on the international market would be vastly more expensive than paying subsidised Soviet prices.

At least four other Soviet republics and numerous localities are now controlled by progressives who have indicated support for Lithuania's bid for independence, and some Lithuanians said they were hoping for holes in Gorbachev's blockade.

"We don't think individual republics will go along with this, especially republics like Azerbaijan and Georgia, which want independence," said Aidas Palubinskas, another parliament spokesman. "They understand they are going to be in the same boat."

Latvia and Estonia, the other two Baltic republics, also are pressing for independence, though more cautiously than Lithuania. On Friday, they signed an economic co-operation agreement with Lithuania that promises mutual aid in emergencies.

Palubinskas voiced confidence that the Kremlin would not be able to starve Lithuania into submission, because the republic produces more meat and milk than it consumes. An economic war could hurt consumers in Moscow and Leningrad, who would see their already meager food supplies shrink, he said.

Pope John Paul II met with a top Soviet advisor and sent a telegram of encouragement to the Cardinal of Lithuania in his second public pronouncement in three weeks on the political situation in the troubled Baltic republic, the Vatican announced.



Scramble to buy new shoes

Romanians scramble to buy shoes in a queue in Bucharest April 14 as the country is still unable to provide consumer goods. It is an old custom to wear new clothes and shoes at Easter. (Reuter wirephoto)

Yeltsin bid gets a boost

MOSCOW, April 15. (Reuters). Populist politician Boris Yeltsin's bid for the presidency of the Soviet Union's key Russian federation has been boosted by the backing of the radical Democratic Russia bloc in the republic's parliament.

Tass news agency said 200 deputies, elected in March as part of the reformist movement, met yesterday and proposed the maverick Yeltsin as a candidate for the top post in the federation, the largest of the Soviet republics.

It would give the often volatile Yeltsin a highly visible platform from which to criticise the Communist Party and its leadership, including Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Formal nominations and voting are set for May 16, when the federation's newly-elected parliament holds its opening session.

The presidency is now held by Vitaly Vorotnikov, a full member of the party's ruling politburo.

Four other members of Democratic Russia, which backs a wide-ranging social, political and economic reform programme, were also nominated to stand for the federation's top post.

Romanians enjoy first free Easter

Bulgarians shout slogans

BUCHAREST, April 15. (Reuters). Romanians took a holiday from politics today to flock to church and feast on traditional roast lamb on their first free Easter after four decades of atheistic communist rule.

State television broadcast religious services in Bucharest and other towns in a dramatic break with the past, when Stalinist ruler Nicolae Ceausescu was the only "God" to appear on the screen and religion was discouraged in favour of atheism.

Newspapers published religious messages on the eve of the festival and some ran large front-page pictures of Jesus Christ.

The Easter celebration of Christ's resurrection has come to symbolise a national revival following Ceausescu's ouster in a bloody uprising. He was executed on December 25, Christmas Day.

For the first time since communists took power 43 years ago, Romanians enjoyed a three-day public holiday ending on Monday.

"This year the Romanian people is celebrating its first free Easter after 45 years of bondage under an atheist dictatorship," said an Easter message from the Orthodox Church synod.

"Whereas the atheist dictatorship sowed hatred among us at home and abroad, the faith in resurrected Jesus calls us now to reconciliation and forgiveness, to a new Christian and Romanian life."

Queues formed as denizens of Bucharest went on a shopping spree in the days before Easter, taking advantage of better food supplies under the interim National Salvation Front government which has run the country since Ceausescu fell and is seeking to retain power to free elections next month.

More than 100,000 Bulgarians, many shouting anti-communist slogans, thronged central Sofia today in the first free Easter celebrations in four decades.

Witnesses said the largest crowd, many cradling tiny candles, packed streets near the headquarters of the ruling Socialist Party for a pre-dawn open-air mass held by dissident orthodox priest Christofo Sabev.

Cristescu first woman to run for Romanian presidency

BUCHAREST, April 15. (Reuters). Factory boss Olga Cristescu announced yesterday she would run for Romania's presidency next month — the first woman in the race — and pledged to restore the country's shattered economy within three years.

"What convinced me to run for president was watching all the other candidates — they say they want to do everything but they don't say how they intend to do it," she told Reuters in a telephone interview, her first with the media.

"If I win the election, I intend to select a very good team and set the economy back on a straight course in two or three years," said Cristescu, who admires British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her economic policies.

An engineer in wood technology, she manages a factory with 2,000 workers making casings for radio and television sets. She said she had rescued it from the verge of bankruptcy and turned it into a prosperous business in six years.

"I think Romania could be brought back to a performing economy in much less time," she said.

Cristescu, fiftyish and married with a son aged 27, is the sixth candidate to enter the May 20 presidential election. She is the first independent candidate as well as the first woman.

The five others are established politicians, with interim President Ion Iliescu, an ex-communist, the front-runner so far.

Discover the mini break holiday that's nearby.

Country	Per person sharing a twin room.
Bahrain	Room KO 51 500
Sharjah	From KD 82
Dubai	From KD 86
Abu Dhabi	From KD 89
Muscat	From KO 104 500
Doha	From KD 69

Rates are inclusive of economy return air fare a stay of two nights and transport from & to hotel.

ATHENS

Hotel	Per person sharing a twin room.
Hilton	KD 13 500
Holiday Inn	KD 6 500
Marriott	KD 12 500
Meridien	KD 12

INDIA

4 days tours	Hotel	Per person sharing a twin room.
Delhi/Agra	Obero	KD. 70
		Rate includes breakfast, half day sight seeing tours for Delhi, a day trip to Agra, and transport to hotel and back.
Srinagar	Obero Palace	KD. 26
		Rate includes breakfast, and transport to hotel and back.
Hyderabad	Krishnah Obero	KD. 28
		Rate includes transport to hotel and back.
7 days tours: Bombay	Obero Towers	KD. 75
		Rate includes half day city tours and transport to hotel and back.

LONDON

Hotel	Per person sharing a twin room.
Gloucester (Delux)	KD. 311 for 5 days

Rate includes accommodation, economy return air fare on BA, and continental breakfast.

CYPRUS

Hotel	Per person sharing a twin room.
Nicosia: Churchil	KD 11 500
Ledra	KD 9
LIMASSOL: Sheraton	KD 13
Le Meridien	KD 13
LARNACA: Palm Beach	KD 12
Lordos Beach	KD 8

Alghanim Industries

Alghanim travel

Shawla 4842858 Ext: 3777 • Kuwait City 2432100
Mirqab 2401680 • Salmya 5720022 • Fahaheel 3917642
Alicha 3980705 • Salmya 2413327

KUWAIT ... GULF

Kuwait to participate in Riyadh marine meet

Overland agreement with Poland finalised

THE Assistant Undersecretary for Transport Affairs at Kuwait's Ministry of Communication Saeed Al-Sudani was quoted as saying that Kuwait will participate in the GCC meeting scheduled to take place in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on May 13 and 14 to study the GCC Unified Marine System Project.

In an interview with a local daily, the official disclosed that this project was suggested by Saudi Arabia and aims at unifying the marine systems of the member states. Saudi proposals were in general in compliance with the Kuwait Marine Trade Law enacted in 1980. He added that Kuwait will submit this law to the meeting

in the form of a working paper to be discussed at that meeting.

Speaking of his department's recent performance, the assistant undersecretary for transport affairs said that the draft agreement for overland transport between Kuwait and Poland was finalised recently in co-operation with the legal department at the ministry. This draft will be despatched to Polish authorities through Kuwait's ministry of Foreign Affairs for their scrutiny and the defining of a specific date for mutual debate of the proposed agreement.

Apart from the above, Sudan said that his department is currently preparing for

floating a tender for supply and installation of a number of navigation guide posts to be fixed in different places in Kuwaiti territorial waters. He elucidated that these posts will be distributed on 26 sites in co-operation with a committee grouping members from the Ministries of Interior, Defence and Planning in addition to representatives from Kuwait based United Arab Shipping Company (UASC) and Public Ports Authority (PPA).

Additionally, the ministry represented by his department floated a tender to maintain the current navigation guide posts which estimated at 63, the official was

quoted as saying. He added that the department had invited relevant bidders to submit their offers for the supply of a specialised boat to carry out a hydrographic survey in order to enable the department to make the necessary survey in Kuwaiti territorial waters. Such a survey was previously conducted by specialised companies.

He added that his department supervises the overland transport sector in addition to protecting water valid for navigation in co-operation with the authorities concerned in addition to the co-operation with the international and Arab organizations in the field of navigation.

Free-for-all at psychiatric hospital reported

THE Psychiatric Diseases Hospital was the scene of a free-for-all in which a number of police personnel sustained traumatic injuries, and bruises.

A local daily said that a police squad came to the hospital to fetch a prisoner who was under medical treatment, but he resisted them and refused to leave the hospital.

The simple mutiny soon developed into a fist-fight in which the brother of the patient took part as he happened to be there, and the police had to call the Shuwaik police station for back-up to bring the situation under control.

The suspects had in the meantime armed themselves with sticks and knives which they used efficiently utilising their past fighting training which they received during their military service.

It was not until they were threatened with guns did they decide to give themselves up.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sabah receives

KUWAIT, April 15, (Kuna): Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber received yesterday Maldivian Foreign Minister Jameel Fathullah who is on a private visit to Kuwait.

During the meeting the two sides reviewed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

He also received interior minister Sheikh Salem Al-Sabah on the occasion of his return from London where he headed Kuwait's delegation to the international conference on fighting drugs that concluded there last week.

Czech envoy

KUWAIT, April 15, (Kuna): Chairman of Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry Abdulaziz Hamad Al-Saeed received here yesterday Czechoslovak Ambassador to Kuwait Tomas Strasko.

During the meeting the two sides discussed means of promoting economic and trade relations between the two countries.

Sri Lankan pilgrims

COLOMBO, April 15, (Kuna): About 3,500 Sri Lankan Muslims are expected to make the Hajj pilgrimage this year, according to State Minister for Muslim Religious and Cultural Affairs, A.H.M. Azwer.

This is possible this time the minister said "because of better facilities given by the government."

Hospital ship leaves

ABU DHABI, April 15, (Kuna): The Soviet hospital ship "Peter the First" has left the port of Jebel Ali in the United Arab Emirates. It was fitted out as an ophthalmology clinic on the initiative of top Soviet eye surgeon Svyatoslav Fyodorov. The ship was in the port for six months, treating local and foreign patients.

Iranian concern

ATHENS, April 15, (UPI): Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei expressed concern about the migration of Soviet Jews to Israel, the official Islamic Republic News Agency said.

Khamenei "expressed grave concern over influx of Soviet Jews to Palestine and said the US and the Soviet Union had made a secret deal over the issue," an IRNA dispatch monitored in Athens said.

Khamenei's remarks came as the Soviet News Agency Tass said there was a security alarm of a possible attack by Arab militants when an Aeroflot plane, carrying Soviet Jewish immigrants to Israel via Cyprus, landed at Larnaca International Airport.

Panel submits plan for action

(Continued from Page 1)

Sheikh Salem said that the committee asked the Interior Ministry to study the procedures of providing visas to Kuwait. He said that the ministry was told that it was businessmen in commercial and industrial fields are the ones meant by the proposal calling to facilitate issuing visas. The ministry was also told to study the possibility of simplifying the procedures of issuing visas particularly at Kuwait airport and Kuwait missions abroad.

About the recommendations aimed at boosting the economic productivity, Sheikh Salem said that 77 proposals were issued in this field and 15 of them have been implemented in the various economic sectors. In the real estate sector the committee implemented the proposal calling to demolish state expropriated real estates which are still rented by tenants. Sheikh Salem said that the Ministry of Finance said the majority of such buildings would be demolished soon. The committee also implemented the proposal calling to create the law needed to establish real estate investment of the funds. Sheikh Salem said that the law concerning the establishment of the funds has been recently approved by the Council of Ministers.

In addition, the Ministry of Justice informed the committee that it has been seeking the opinion of several sides of modernising the rent law. The revision should achieve more stability between landlords and tenants and to facilitate the procedures of vacating old buildings.

In the transportation field, Sheikh Salem said that the committee has told the ministry to implement the proposal banning private transportation vehicles from carrying goods or passengers to others. The ministry said that it was taking a tough line against violators. Sheikh Salem announced that the committee implemented the proposal allowing local hotels to issue visas for their guests. The committee also made consultations with owners of hotels to search for ways to reactivate the hotel industry.

The contracting sector

The recommendations mentioned in the report of the Joint Economic Committee relating to the contracting sector reached 12 recommendations. The follow-up committee saw that 11 of these recommendations should be carried out within three months — First Group — and one recommendation that should be carried out within six months.

Two recommendations of the first group were carried out (18.2 per cent) of total recommendations. The first is recommendation No. 8 that asks the local authorities and establishments which grant loans and donations to foreign countries to urge these countries to give priority to the Kuwaiti consultative offices and contracting companies to carry out projects there. The Kuwait Finance Ministry took the required action in co-ordination with the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development.

The second recommendation No. 11 that relates to reconsidering of decisions taken by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour about organisation of labour at private sector. The recommendation urges to be more flexible in transferring of residence permits from sponsor to another to meet the requirements of work at the contracting sector in particular. The ministry advised that it held a meeting with officials of Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the union praised the decision of the ministry describing it as achieving the higher interest of the state. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour was asked to study its decision again after a sufficient period of application to see if it needs amendment or not.

From the courts

Embezzlement by computer trio gets each 3 years

THE Criminal Court sentenced a girl, her brother and his friend to three years rigorous imprisonment on charges of embezzling funds through the computer.

The court was told that the first defendant was working as assistant director of the computer section in a local bank. She had transferred credits of three customers to the account of the second defendant who was a friend of her brother.

The total amount involved was KD9,256,500 and was illegally transferred by computerising the account number of the second defendant on the computer disk instead of the numbers of the three customers.

Official sources said that the second defendant had opened the account only a month previously and had given the account number to the third defendant.

The amount of KD9,070 was withdrawn the very next day. However, the forgery was detected and reported to security police who successfully apprehended all three suspects.

The first defendant admitted to the charge, but added that she had repaid the money to the bank. Her defence attorney claimed that she did not intend to embezzle the funds, but was done only to prove to her brother that she could transfer any amount from account of a customer to another account.

The court in its deliberations disagreed and convicted all three on counts of computer fraud with the intent to embezzle funds.

The court in sentencing the three to three rigorous imprisonment, also ordered them to pay a fine of KD9,256,500 and ordered that the first and third defendant be deported on completion of sentence.

A man was sentenced by Kuwait's Criminal Court to 15 years in jail for abducting and raping a housemaid.

The court was told that the victim had gone to a commercial store to purchase some consumer goods for her employer and the defendant stopped her and demanded she produce her identification card. She said that it was at home and the accused who was dressed in

military uniform asked her to step in his car to go to the residence.

However, he drove her to a deserted location and raped her. The victim informed her employer who in turn provided police with details of the accused who was subsequently arrested.

Investigations revealed that the defendant had previously abducted another woman and has also forcibly stolen money from another man.

Two citizens identified as S.S. and F.M. arrested a member of a gang specialised in stealing cars and exporting them to other countries.

According to official sources, the gang stole a porsche car which belonged to S.S. as also three Rolls Royces in one single night from a garage at Shuwaik Industrial Area.

The stolen car that belonged to S.S. was seen by his brother in a garage at Jileeb Al-Shayoukh area during his work as an inspector in Kuwait Municipality. However, he observed that the colour and number plate of the car had been altered.

He instructed the garage owner to notify him when the man came to collect the vehicle and informed his brother S.S. and his friend F.M. of the plan. When they received the call, they went to the garage and accused the accused who tried to escape, but was apprehended.

Sources said that the defendant was wanted by the police on suspicion of committing many other crimes. His Kuwaiti passport indicated that he had travelled 14 times to two Arab countries during 1989 and had left the company with several cars. He was also found to be carrying a forged car book for the stolen car of S.S. and registered in his name.

Investigation has revealed that there is a network operating in forging car books and further investigations are in progress.

One child died and five people were injured in the course of 18 traffic accidents which occurred Thursday in the country, according to the Interior Ministry's Public Relations Department.

It added that four accidents were reported in the Capital, two in Hawalli, nine in Al-Ahmedi and three in Al-Jahra.

Iranian newspaper attacks British court over 'moving corpse' Rushdie

NICOSIA, April 15, (Reuters): An Iranian newspaper yesterday attacked a British court's refusal to allow author Salman Rushdie to be tried for blasphemy and described him as "no more than a moving corpse."

The headline English-lan-

guage Kayhan International said of "The Satanic Verses" author that "his fate is but certain death — a fact that the British rulers have to accept sooner or later."

Last Monday, high court judges refused to allow British Muslims to prosecute Rushdie,

saying Christianity was the only religion protected by that country's blasphemy laws.

The British author, a non-practising Muslim born in India, has lived in hiding since February 1989 when Iran's late spiritual leaders Ayatollah

Khomeini ordered Muslims to kill him for alleged blasphemy against Islam in "The Satanic Verses."

Kayhan International said the court ruling showed the true nature of democracy and

freedom claimed by British authorities.

An editorial in another headline newspaper Jomhuri Eslami said that neglect of the Muslims' complaint showed the court was a mere mouthpiece of the British government.

"British statesmen should realise that there will be no flexibility from the Islamic Republic for improvement of Tehran-London ties unless they meet demands of Muslims," the Iranian news agency Irna reported the editorial as saying.

The newspaper said more than one billion Muslims were enraged at publication of what it termed the blasphemous novel while Britain "is once again making faces at Muslims and displaying its hostility against Islam."

Punitive action against abuse of power: Khomeenes

Securitymen warned

THE director of the Control and Inspection Department at the Interior Ministry Col. Abdullah Al-Khamees has said that a number of punitive administrative measures have been enforced against securitymen charged with ill-treatment of citizens and residents.

He told a local daily that penalties are meted out to securitymen, who use their official position to give people 'raw deals', commensurate with the size and type of the case in question.

He added that these penalties start with an oral warning, then written notice, and pay-deductions for recurrent violation of their official authority and after that the penalties take a stricter turn involving deprivation of promotion, detention from one week to a month, suspension and finally sacking.

He said these measures are enforced to ensure that all ministry staff played by the rules, and performed their duties honestly with integrity, pointing out that complaints lodged by people against securitymen are thoroughly considered and the person in question will be interrogated to find out the truth of the matter.

He stressed that if the relevant security authorities fail to find any incriminating evidence in the complaint lodged against one of its staff members, the case will be referred to the General Investigations Department for action against the lodger unless the victimised officer chooses to drop the case.

He said that the department has received quite a few complaints with made-up stories intended to frame the security officers for personal grudges and

reasons, and the people concerned were referred to competent authorities for punitive measures.

He said that in one case a traffic policeman had a week's pay deducted from his salary, as he had unjustly detained one person and withdrew his driving licence.

Khomeenes stressed the importance of boxes mounted in the governorates' corridors to collect people's complaints, which are dealt with utmost secrecy.

He said some complaints go straight to the minister or undersecretary containing all needed information and duly signed by the lodgers, stressing that the ministry's doors are always open to receive people with complaints against police personnel abusing their offices and smearing their official records.

NHA rebuilding certain areas

THE Minister of State for Housing Affairs Nasser Abdullah Al-Roudhan has said that the National Housing Authority (NHA) deeply considers the social and human factors involved in the housing of Kuwaiti families and that no families have been left without homes.

He told a local daily that the evacuation of some of the residential blocks and relocating the involved residents. In this respect, it undertakes the rebuilding of the area in line with the needs of the urbanisation process to meet the housing requirements of the stage.

The NHA will not allocate houses in areas, which are under rebuilding, to other than its original residents the official said adding that the rebuilding process is being carried out in several locations in line with a special time schedule.

He reaffirmed that all factors of importance to social, human or technical considerations are being considered in line with directives from HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince, who give considerable attention to the ongoing urbanisation process.

The NHA will execute new housing projects under its fourth five-year plan, pointing out that these projects will be characterised by a variety of building designs and will provide residential plots of 400 square metre area, and others at 250, with three-storey buildings constructed in certain areas and strings of small adjoining 2-storey houses at 200 square metre spaces in others. In this manner, the NHA hopes to meet all different varieties of citizens' tastes, the official said.

He said that citizens are showing increasing great interest in the Sawabir project, and that therefore the NHA is intensifying contacts with the municipality to allocate spaces in the city for similar housing projects.

He pointed out that the scarcity of lands fit for construction is the only problem facing expansion of housing projects.



Reading competition

A few days ago, 161 primary school pupils appeared for the final phase of the free reading and library competition. The examination was held at the Sharaf primary school for girls and the students came from all the five educational areas. During the examination, Assistant Undersecretary for Information and Student Affairs, Abdul Mohsen Al-Saeed, Assistant Undersecretary for Planning and Development, Dr. Rasheed Al-Hamad and Assistant Undersecretary of Financial and Administrative Affairs, Abdul Aziz Al-Jarallah accompanied by senior ministry officials visited the students during the examination.

Name change applications under study

A COMMITTEE set up by the Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs to study applications for changing names and the head of the general prosecution Dirar Al-Awsouli said that the committee was set up when many people demanded to change their names and surnames to escape from crimes they committed or debts they are required to pay. These people submitted applications to change their names and to be named after families and tribes they do not belong to. He added that some of them joined school and took up public jobs under false names. Some people claiming they have no nationality were also granted official nationalities. Some however, were hiding their real nationalities by carrying forged names to benefit from privileges given to those who have no nationalities (Bedoun). These people revealed their real names and nationalities

about applicants, he said.

Asousi pointed out that one of the most significant problems that face the committee in its work is absence of applicants or witnesses who are asked to attend meetings of the committee. He added that the committee succeeded to expose many cases of cheating and fraud made by some applicants and revealed real nationalities of many of these applicants. It also revealed that others got the Kuwaiti nationality illegally after carrying names that do not belong to them and naming themselves after Kuwaiti fathers to get nationality, he said.

He added that the committee has received 3,741 name-change applications since it began working in June 1988 including 1,453 applications submitted in 1988 and 1,975 applications in 1989. The committee processed half of these applications, he said.

The committee is obliged to study each application and call witnesses to hear their saying and also invites experts and medical examiners as well as CID men to determine the authenticity of applicants. Sometimes the committee contacts with some embassies to get informations

later. The committee was set up to study applications of these people before referring them to the courts, he said.

The committee investigates real reasons of demands to change names and holds its meetings at the Justice Palace.

He added that the committee issues its recommendations on each separate application before referring it to the relevant court and added that the committee receives large number of applications which is a time consuming process for analysis' purposes.

The committee is obliged to study each application and call witnesses to hear their saying and also invites experts and medical examiners as well as CID men to determine the authenticity of applicants. Sometimes the committee contacts with some embassies to get informations

later. The committee was set up to study applications of these people before referring them to the courts, he said.

The committee investigates real reasons of demands to change names and holds its meetings at the Justice Palace.

He added that the committee issues its recommendations on each separate application before referring it to the relevant court and added that the committee receives large number of applications which is a time consuming process for analysis' purposes.

The committee is obliged to study each application and call witnesses to hear their saying and also invites experts and medical examiners as well as CID men to determine the authenticity of applicants. Sometimes the committee contacts with some embassies to get informations

later. The committee was set up to study applications of these people before referring them to the courts, he said.

Cleanliness law a farce, say citizens

Centralised system under fire

A SECTION of citizens have claimed that the cleanliness law which was implemented almost two years ago is still a "pie-in-the-sky" and called for enhanced censorship on restaurants and also to ban pedestrians.

Citizens were also critical of the new committee decision to give a percentage of

the value of violations to municipal officials and inspectors and said that this is considered to be "a conflict of interest". They said that this could be used by officials to misuse their authority for their own personal gains.

Citizens further said that several problems between the municipality and

the commercial sector have arisen due to the excessive use of "wastia" which allow for some to violate the municipal regulations and rules without being punished.

Citizens also said that some of the residential organisations are disorganised and pointed out that names of some areas

are in fact difficult to pronounce and even to remember. They also said that the centralised system is not effective and called for establishing branches of committees at governorates. They also queried as to when the municipality would begin evaluating some of the old houses in Aqiliya and Jleeb Shuyookh.

Legal Clinic



SHOULD you have a legal, labour-related or similar problem, kindly send your questions to: Arab Times Legal Clinic. Our Kuwaiti lawyer, Khaled Taher, replies to readers' queries. Write to Legal Clinic, Arab Times, P.O. Box 2270, 13023 Safat, Kuwait or fax your questions on Fax No. 4847495.

I AM working in a textile company in Sabhan. About 50 ladies work here. Our management wants us to do night shift — from 12 midnight to 7.30 am. If we don't agree to do night shift, we are threatened with termination or our salary is cut as a disciplinary action. We are also not paid overtime; even if we work on Fridays and public holidays, we are paid normal salary after six to seven months. We would like to know if the Kuwaiti Labour Law allows such a practice?

Female employees

ARTICLE 23 of the Kuwaiti Labour Law covers employment of women at night. "Women may not be employed at night with exception of private clinics and other institutions regarding the (nature of) work of which a decision shall be issued by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour."

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour gives permission to hotels and hospitals to employ women to work at night. You can file a case against the company. If the company has such a permission allowing them to employ women at night they will have to produce the permission in court. If you want, you can explain all the circumstances and file a case, and asking them to reschedule working hours and demand benefits.

I HAVE been working in a private company for the last nine years. Due to domestic problems, I want to go back to my country after cancelling my residence permit. Is there any provision according to the Kuwait Labour Law by which I can claim full benefits from my sponsor and if so when should I approach?

An employee.

AN EMPLOYEE who wishes to terminate his contract with a company must give his employer at least 15 days' notice before leaving his job and ask them to cancel the visa.

If you resign from the job and ask the company to cancel the visa, you are entitled to get half of the benefits. A 7.5 days wages for every year of service for the first five years and half month wages for the following years. The law also says that the total indemnity "shall not exceed 18

months wages for monthly paid workers."

You can claim the benefits according to the law from your employer, who will calculate your service with the company and pay the indemnity accordingly. In case the employer refuses to pay the indemnity, and does not have a valid reason for refusing to do so, you can approach the Social Affairs Ministry and ask the welfare officials to mediate on your behalf.

WE CAME to Kuwait in 1985 on two years contract; in March 1987, our residence permits were extended. However, we were not asked to sign new contracts. Can we consider our residence permit as a contract?

If we decide to terminate our employment, when will be the most appropriate time — on the expiry of the residence permit or on the anniversary of our employment?

What are my benefits? Are they applicable to employees who have worked for under five years with a company?

Will the company shoulder our plane tickets?

Filipino group

KUWAIT Labour Law, Article 52, stipulates: "If the labour contract is made for a fixed period and both parties continue to implement it after its expiry, it shall be deemed renewed for an unlimited period under the same conditions." This means that you are now working on an "unlimited period" contract.

Article 54 of the labour law covers terminal indemnity.

(For workers paid hourly, daily, or weekly) "A ten day wage for every one year of service for the first five years and a 15 day wage for every one year service for the following years, provided that the total indemnity shall not exceed an year's wage with regard to the labourers receiving their wages per day, week, or per hour."

(For monthly paid workers): "A 15 day wage for every one year service for the first five years, and a month's wage for each year of service for the following years, provided that the total indemnity shall not exceed one and a half year wage."

with regard to monthly paid labourers."

Article 56 says that if a labourer resigns, he "shall not be entitled to any service terminal indemnity. But he shall be entitled to half of the indemnity (provided in Article 54) if the period of his service exceeds five consecutive years."

The benefits, in other words, are not applicable if the employee has not completed five years service.

Regarding the appropriate time to resign, this can be best decided by you. If you want to leave before Jan 1991, when your visa expires, you can inform your employers two weeks before the expiry of the visa. You have to give two weeks notice, regardless if when you want to end your services.

The Labour Law, Ministerial Resolution No. 87/1989, Article 20/21 says that the employer must provide a ticket for the employee on "final cancellation" of a visa. This means that if the labourer is returning permanently to his country or origin, he is entitled to get an air ticket from his employer.

However, the employer is not held responsible if (Article 20, Ministerial Resolution 87/1989): (1) the labourer's service has been terminated under a disciplinary action; (2) if the labourer refuses to continue in the employer's service during the period of contract without having any legal right to do so; (3) or if the labourer has terminated his/her contract in a manner contradictory to the conditions stipulated therein or to the provisions of the labour law.

I HAVE been working in a firm since April 1974. Until 1980, I was on an indefinite contract. Later, I signed a limited contract, renewable every two years. The company does not want to renew the limited contract. If I resign before the end of the contract, what benefits am I entitled to?

An employee

YOU are entitled to the benefits that are stated in the "limited contract". Whatever the contract says must be followed. In case of a dispute the matter can be referred to the Social Affairs Ministry, which if necessary, can forward the case to a court.

Ban on travellers bringing in foodstuff

THE Director of the Public Health Department and the Head of Ports and Borders Health Department at Kuwait Ministry of Public Health Dr. Raed Al Owais has said that the ministry has banned some kinds of foodstuff from being brought into the country by incoming passengers during the summer season.

In an interview with a local daily, the official clarified that the banned materials during such a period will include dairy derivatives, uncooked fish, poultry, mixed pickles, figs and vegetable. He added that the ban is aimed at protecting the country from the disease which might prevail in the countries of origin and the lack of application of the international laws and health conditions in this connection.



MEW contract

ELECTRICITY and Water Minister Dr. Homoud Abdullah Al-Raqobah yesterday signed a contract with a local company for supplying and maintaining split air conditioning units at the government's intermediate and secondary schools in implementation of the Amir's wish.

The KD5 865 million contract stipulates completing the work within five years and specifically to end by the start of the scholastic year 1995/96.

The ministry had completed the conditioning of the kindergarten and elementary schools last year.

Over 20,000 visit visas issued in March: report

THE Immigration departments in the four governorates issued over 20,000 visit visas during the month of March.

A release issued by the Interior Ministry's Public Relations Department said that 11,600 of the visit visas went to families, about 8,240 of them to business and the rest of other purposes.

A sharp increase in the number of family visit visas is noticed and is attributed to the holy month of Ramadan.

The release added that the four immigration departments issued during the same month as many as 10,762 work permits, of which 8,893 permits went to maids, 1,083 work permits for workers in the private sector, 702 family permits and 84 permits for the government.

The four departments issued during March 10,928 new residences and cancelled 6,845. They renewed about 28,300 temporary residences. The release added that the departments transferred 5,823 residences from old to new sponsors and opened 1,272 files for new sponsors. The departments issued 1,261 permits for expatriates allowing them to stay outside Kuwait for more than 6 months.

Meanwhile, the annual report of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour said that 93,143 work visas were issued last year and that 50 per cent were issued by the labour department at Capital Governorate. The report added that 69,852 expatriate workers arrived in Kuwait last year.

The ministry renewed 180,374 work permits, transferred 744 government employees to private sector and allowed 5,280 persons who have family residence permits to work in the private sector. The ministry allowed 669 maids and servants at houses to work in the private sector and three persons who carry visit cards to transfer directly to work in the private sector due to their specialisation. The ministry also allowed 514 persons (without nationality) to work in Kuwait.

The report pointed out that the ministry's labour departments received 6,357 labour complaints during last year, of which 2,062 were settled amicably and 3088 referred to courts.

The labour departments also received 1,317 complaints on residence permits between labourers and their employers of which 633 were settled.

Czech FM to visit Kuwait

KUWAIT, April 15, (Kuna): Director of Protocol Department at the Foreign Ministry Ahmed Abdul Wahed Al-Ayoub announced here Saturday that the Czechoslovak foreign minister will begin an official two-day visit to Kuwait next Saturday.

He told Kuna that the Czech minister will meet HH the Amir and also hold talks with State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saud Mohammad Al-Osaimi on means of promoting bilateral relations and latest Arab, European and international developments.

The Czech minister will also confer with officials at the oil and finance ministries and Public Authority for Investment.

Ayoub noted that it was the first official visit by the Czech minister since he was appointed to his new post.

Pak embassy shifts to new premises

THE Embassy of Pakistan in Kuwait has shifted to new premises in Jahra at Villa No. 7 Block No. 11 Plot No. 5 Jahra Police Station Street.

Telephone connections have been installed. The embassy officials can now be contacted at telephone numbers: 5327649/5327651 on all working days, a press release of the embassy said.



Salem returns

KUWAIT'S Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Sabhan Al-Salem returned home Saturday after heading Kuwait's delegation to the international ministerial conference on combating drugs.

Sheikh Salem and the accompanying delegation took part in the conference discussions, and delivered Kuwait's speech last Tuesday.

The conference started in London last Monday with the attendance of 112 countries represented by 500 delegates.

The three-day conference was organised by Britain in co-operation with the UN.

Ahmadi Governorate tough on smuggling, says Saleh

By Sayed Usman

THE director of security at Ahmadi Governorate Brigadier Fuad Musaid Al-Saleh has said that the governorate takes strict procedures to prevent smuggling of narcotics and other prohibited materials and to seize infiltrators.

He added that co-operation of governorate with coastal guards reduced the number of infiltrators and that all security departments seek to establish stability in the country specially at Ahmadi Governorate where oil installations and companies concentrate.

The security department of Ahmadi Governorate co-operates with security department of oil installations to protect these installations from terrorist actions. There are continuous patrols, fixed guards and mobile checkpoints around

these installations, he said.

Brigadier Saleh pointed out that securitymen have continuous control on all chalet areas through different patrols. These patrols can expose any attempt to smuggle liquor or narcotics into these chalets. The official called on owners of chalets not to leave their chalets out of their control in order not to be used by smugglers or some guards of these chalets.

"We support and help all companies that have their own security staff inside their installations the official said. He added that the governorate plans to shift cattle pens from their present location at Mina Abdulla area to another area at Wafra Road. The new area will be organised and controlled by securitymen. This project is being studied by the security committee, he said.

The governorate witnessed

about 929 crimes during last year. Most of these crimes were thefts, dud cheques, fighting, breaking and entering houses and some moral crimes. The governorate also reported 1,405 misdemeanours last year. Most of them were thefts, fighting, dishonesty, drinking liquor, damaging properties of others and misusing the telephone. He added that security men at Ahmadi arrested most criminals who committed these crimes and referred them to the relevant authorities.

He pointed out that securitymen succeeded in arresting a number of smugglers and addicts of narcotics during the last year. "We seek to develop the communications networks and to provide security department with policemen beside experting refresher courses for policemen in co-operation with the police academy," he added.

Iraq water supply talks re-open

BAGHDAD, April 15, (Kuna): Iraq and Kuwait opened talks here yesterday to discuss steps to supply Kuwait with fresh water for irrigation and domestic purposes, Iraqi News Agency, INA reported.

The Kuwaiti side was led by Electricity and Water Undersecretary Abdulla Al-Meniyes who arrived here earlier in the day, while Iraqi local government undersecretary headed his country's side.

On arrival, Meniyes said his visit aimed to continue negotiations with the Iraqi officials over providing Kuwait with water under last year's agreement and to further bolster bilateral co-operation.

tion between the two friendly countries in this field.

The agreement involves pumping to Kuwait 200 million imperial gallons of water from Iraqi rivers for irrigation and domestic uses.

Meniyes commended Iraq's national and brotherly stances and praised its willingness to supply Kuwait with fresh water, INA said.

The agency quoted the Iraqi local governments undersecretary as asserting his country's principled position to "co-operate with Kuwaiti brethren in such a way that would serve the joint interests and further enhance the two countries' fruitful co-operation."

Breakthrough in racing camel procreation reported in UAE

ABU DHABI, April 15, (AP): The first-ever artificial insemination of racing camels has been successfully carried out in Abu Dhabi, Al-Ithad newspaper reported yesterday.

Scientists at the Sheikh Khalifa Genetic Research Laboratory have successfully separated and artificially fertilized ova of famous racing camel breeds, said the state-run newspaper of the United Arab Emirates.

The report described the artificial insemination as "a scientific breakthrough in the field of racing camels."

Millions of dollars are spent every year on camel races in the UAE as well as in the rest of the countries on the Arabian Peninsula.

The laboratory specialises in studying genetic means to procreate racing camels by applying advanced technology similar to that used on horses and livestock in the west.

But to date this has never applied to camels.

Success

The artificial insemination success was the result of 16 months of research with the help of Australian scientists, Al-Ithad said.

The lab, located in a farm owned by Abu Dhabi Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE armed forces Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed, at the border city of Al-Ain, was also reported to be heading for a further advanced step.

The lab, which had so far succeeded in preserving fertilised ova for years, would announce in a few weeks the success of the first-ever ovule division to create twins out of each ovule, said Al-Ithad.

It has equally succeeded in using hormones to activate camels to produce from three to 10 ova instead of one under ordinary circumstances, the paper said.

The laboratory will go ahead with its genetic researches to increase camel procreation in the country and to try to genetically improve them. Al-Ithad quoted its officials as saying.

REQUIRED Drivers

With valid Kuwaiti heavy driving licence, transferable residence permit is a must. Interested please Call: 4837370/1/2/3

For professional high quality photography using the very latest equipment in our large purpose built studio.

For creative still life, brochures, promotional and industrial photography. Excellent slide copies from flat artwork, 35mm to 5 x 4 inch, black and white printing and processing.

For a complete professional photographic service, ring Mark on 4813566 ext 235. And see how our images can help yours.

The image makers

ARAB & TIMES

Photographic Services



Bader Al Mulla & Brothers Co.W.L.L.
PROJECT ENGINEERING DIVISION

REQUIRE

The following personnel:

CENTRAL AIRCONDITIONING MECHANICS

CENTRAL AIRCONDITIONING OPERATORS

Interested candidates should come personally

with their certificates and meet Engineer K.

Anantharaman at our Project Engineering

Division in Shuwaikh.

Tel. No.: 4815077/4815050 between 9.00 am

& 2.00 pm.

Dole's remark applauded

KUWAIT, April 15, (Kuna): A Kuwaiti newspaper today applauded US Senate Republican minority leader Robert Dole for conceding that the senate's recent resolution on Jerusalem was a mistake and believed Dole's remark would give ammunition to Arabs who believe Washington is trying to be even-handed in its Mideast policy.

The paper, in a frontpage editorial, also lashed out at the US administration indicating that it was hypocritical of Washington to ask Arabs to dismantle their chemical weapons without asking its closest ally, Israel, to eliminate its nuclear arsenal.

But regardless of what the US wants, recent developments in the region, chiefly Iraq's warning to Israel that an attack on Iraqi territories would be mercilessly punished, left no doubt that Arabs are duly seeking strategic parity with Israel, according to the paper.

The Iraqi warning gave this trend added credibility, and the strategic equilibrium sought by Arabs would have greater weight if achieved under the umbrella of "Pan-Arab solidarity."

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

ONE great use of words is to hide our thoughts —
Voltaire, French writer (1694-1778).Anti-base sentiment rises
Germans want
Yankees out

BITBURG, West Germany, (AP): As some of the 250,000 American troops stationed in West Germany look homeward, many Germans are becoming increasingly eager to see them leave.

US President George Bush's proposal to withdraw 57,000 American soldiers has sparked local lobbying over which areas will be affected first.

Once scorned as "anti-Americanism," the wish to see the massive US military presence cut back has picked up support from two state governments.

The conservative governor of Hesse State has become the latest official to urge a major reduction in his region, echoing sentiments expressed earlier in Rhineland-Palatinate.

The Social Democratic mayor of Frankfurt has his eye on a huge military shopping area, hoping to turn it into a city housing development.

Among the sites that West German state officials would like closed is the US Air Force base in Bitburg, where US President Ronald Reagan made a bitterly criticised visit to a German war cemetery in 1985.

Perceive

Many West Germans perceive that the Soviet menace to the East is dissipating, and a majority think US troops should leave, a poll indicates.

A total US troop withdrawal from West Germany would be welcome, said 56.5 per cent of West Germans surveyed in March by German and US polling organizations, while 38.6 per cent said they opposed such a move.

"Before, people were reprimanded for saying such a thing out loud," says Bitburg Deputy Mayor Hans Jacobs. "They were labelled as anti-American."

The city official says "now the time has come" to map out the future with a far smaller number of troops, although he cautions that an immediate pullout would mean economic collapse for the rural town.

Jacobs says he looks forward to a possible civilian use for the air base and less noise from fighter jets screaming overhead. More industry would make up for jobs lost by West German civilians.

"Tourism would also pick up if there weren't so many troops around," he said. The 13,500 Americans outnumber West German residents, Jacobs said.

Many West Germans have long chafed at the presence of such a massive US troop presence as an obstacle to full national sovereignty.

Other reasons for the eagerness to see part of the US military pull out are much simpler, including the need to find housing for hundreds of thousands of immigrants from Eastern Europe.

Hesse State Governor Walter Wallmann, host to nearly 59,000 troops, has made an outright appeal for the removal of military personnel from Frankfurt and nearby Erbenheim.

Wallmann, in a letter to Chancellor Helmut Kohl on April 2, said the American facilities are needed to keep up with "European competition."

Air base

The Hesse governor told Kohl, a fellow Christian Democrat, that he would even like to have the sprawling Rhein-Main US air base outside Frankfurt turned over to the West Germans.

Wallmann's bluntly worded letter would have been unthinkable just months ago from a member of the West German political party with the closest ties to Washington.

Frankfurt is jockeying to become the home of the central bank of an economically integrated Europe, thus attracting even more business to the glittering financial centre.

City mayor Volker Hauff would like the Americans to give up a huge shopping area to turn the site into a city housing development.

"We don't want to drive the Americans out of Frankfurt," adds Hauff's spokesman, Jan Von Trot. "The only thing we are saying is that if there are troop reductions in Europe, they must also occur in Frankfurt."

Nato Commander John R. Galvin has been making TV announcements for the US military to try to calm concerns about the future of American forces in West Germany, according to a military spokesman.

Army Maj David Compton of the US military headquarters in Stuttgart said Galvin still has not made any formal troop cutback plan.

Most West Germans agree American troops will be stationed in their country for the foreseeable future, and the cutbacks could take a while to complete. Many West Germans also warn that the financial impact in smaller areas especially could be severe.

Carl-Ludwig Wagner, the CDU governor of the western state of Rhineland-Palatinate where Bitburg is located, has been sending an increasingly blunt message.

Closure

Wagner has presented a list of 12 military US bases and facilities for possible closure, and demanded full information as Bonn and Washington work out the details.

Josef Hecken, a top official with the state's Interior Ministry, says the bases should be cleared out "as soon as possible" once agreements are reached at troop reduction talks in Vienna.

Hecken said the state government is not demanding the removal of all troops, acknowledging that the military presence is an "important economic factor."

Estimates of the amount of money the American military pours into the Rhineland-Palatinate economy range from 4.5 billion to 7 billion marks a year — or \$2.6 billion to \$4.1 billion annually. That is an important factor for a region that once was one of the poorest in Germany.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1804 — War between British East India Company and Holkar of Indore begins in India.

1856 — Declaration of Paris abolishes privateering, defines nature of contraband and blockade, and recognizes principle of "free ships, free goods."

1862 — France's Napoleon III declares war against Juarez, Mexican leader.

1906 — Pacific cable between United States and China is completed.

1917 — Nikolai Lenin returns to Russia after years of exile.

1922 — Treaty of Rapallo between Germany and Soviet Union recognizes Soviet Union as a "great power" and leads to resumption of diplomatic and trade relations.

1942 — India's Congress rejects terms of self-government offered by Britain.

1945 — US troops enter Nuremberg, Germany, in World War II.

1947 — Fires and explosions wreck Texas City, Texas, as French freighter loaded with nitrate blows up, leaving eventual death toll of more than 500.

1964 — Nationalist leader Joshua Nkomo is placed under restriction in Southern Rhodesia.

1970 — Alpine avalanche plunges down on children's sanatorium at Sallanches, France, killing 72 people.

1972 — US Apollo 16 astronauts are launched toward moon from Cape Kennedy, Florida.

1975 — Cambodian government in Phnom Penh asks for truce and offers to yield to communist forces sweeping into city.

1988 — Israeli commando unit kills Abu Jihad, Palestine Liberation Organisation military commander in Tunis.

1989 — Three bomb blasts on fifth day of government requested ceasefire kills one man and injures 20 people in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Gorby makes radical change

Policy shift from Central Committee

MOSCOW, (AP): Mikhail S. Gorbachev has shifted the burden of setting policy from the Communist Party to new government bodies. But his closest adviser has left no doubt that it is still Gorbachev who has the final say.

A month after Gorbachev created a presidential structure with himself as head, decisions about the economy and Lithuania are made under the new arrangement.

On Saturday, Gorbachev says he will meet with his two new presidential advisory groups, the Presidential Council and the Council of the Federation, to agree on a new set of economic reforms. They are expected to be the most radical the Soviet leader has attempted.

Rejected

After Lithuania last week rejected Gorbachev's call to renounce the declaration of independence in order to open up talks with Moscow, the Kremlin's reaction came from the Presidential Council.

The Soviet news agency Tass said Monday that the Presidential Council "concluded that additional economic, political and other measures should be taken to protect the Soviet constitution and the interests of citizens living in the republic and the Soviet Union as a whole."

Gorbachev also has consulted with the Council of the Federation, made up of representatives of each of the Soviet republics, on the Lithuania dispute.

Meanwhile, the Communist Party's Politburo and Central Committee have been silent. Those bodies for decades have been at the heart of Soviet decision-making, leaving the government only to implement its directives. But Gorbachev has pledged to reduce their role to that of making broad policy decisions.

Gorbachev remains the Communist Party chief, as he has been for the past five years, but his election to the post of president underlined his pledge to limit the party's role. And the shift in decision-making since then on his biggest policy headaches, Lithuania and the economy, appears to confirm that such a change is occurring.

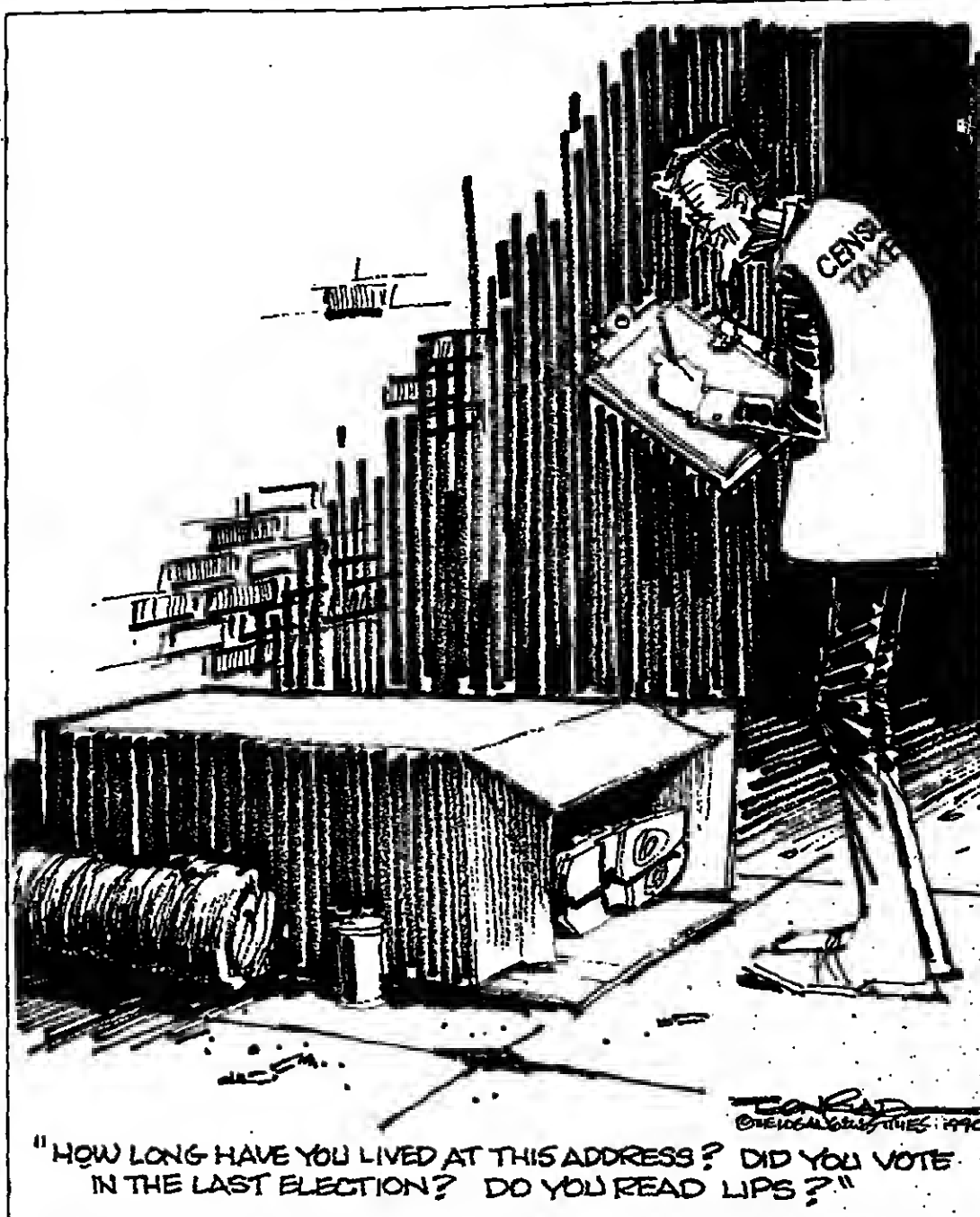
Gorbachev's advisor on economic reform, Deputy Premier Leonid Abalkin, bluntly told reporters that the Politburo no longer would be forming economic policy.

Politburo

"The Politburo will not be making any decisions from now on, and it is already not making the decisions," he said. "Decisions can be made by the president, the Parliament and the Congress of People's Deputies. Those are the decision-making entities now."

The Presidential Council is a hand-picked advisory committee including such top Gorbachev advisers as Politburo member Alexander N. Yakovlev and Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze. For balance, it includes conservatives like writer Valentin Rasputin of Irkutsk and workers' representative Veniamin Yarin of Nizhni-Tagilsk.

Yakovlev, in an interview with Tass last week, emphasised that Gorbachev may turn to the Presidential Council for advice, but that it is up to the president to decide.



"The goal of creating the Presidential Council is to serve as a consultative organ to the new institution of power in the country, to help form and bring to life the political line of the president, as part of the general policy of the Soviet government," Yakovlev said.

Council

"In any instance, the right to choose, the right of decision belongs to the president," he added. "The council can and must analyse, work out proposals, make recommendations, raise questions of its own initiative."

Its formation gives Gorbachev the power to bypass more conservative Politburo members like Yegor K. Legachev and take policy questions to a group most closely in tune with his own views.

Despite five years of reforms, the party's Central Committee still is riddled with party bureaucrats who are suspicious of his reforms. And the Central Committee must make any changes in the Politburo.

make recommendations, raise questions of its own initiative."

Its formation gives Gorbachev the power to bypass more conservative Politburo members like Yegor K. Legachev and take policy questions to a group most closely in tune with his own views.

Despite five years of reforms, the party's Central Committee still is riddled with party bureaucrats who are suspicious of his reforms. And the Central Committee must make any changes in the Politburo.

De Maiziere might yield to Kohl

EAST BERLIN, (Reuters): East Germany's new Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere has the looks of a professor who would rather hide behind his books, but unity talks with West Germany will keep him in a relentless spotlight.

De Maiziere's retiring air and faint voice mask the political skills of an ex-dissident lawyer who turned his Christian Democratic Party (CDU) from a Stalinist puppet into East Germany's biggest democratic force within five months.

He was amazed at his party's victory in East Germany's first free election on March 18 but begged off a commitment to shoulder the high pressure premier's job until early April, when full coalition talks began.

A grave, bespectacled little man with a neat grey beard, De Maiziere projects an air of thinking "there must be some mistake," whenever the media swarms about him clamouring information and an apt quote — now an everyday occurrence.

These encounters are aggravated by De Maiziere's speech defect, which softens and slurs his words so much even native Germans have trouble understanding him.

In any case, the 50-year-old father of three daughters, elected prime minister by Parliament on Thursday, may be able to return to the cosier confines of law offices and lay churchhood in the not too far distant future.

De Maiziere will almost certainly be East Germany's last — as well as its first — non-communist premier.

He will likely yield to the West German Christian Democratic (CDU) leader who galvanised his election campaign and looks best placed to be the first leader of a united Germany — Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

De Maiziere has cobbled together a grand coalition government, including the centre-left Social Democrats (SPD), despite allegations that he and

other new legislators might have been informers for the old Stalinist security police.

The allegations, which De Maiziere brushed aside as rubbish, had threatened to throttle East Germany's new democracy before it got off the ground. A parliamentary commission is now due to be formed to run checks on all 400 members of parliament.

In November 1989, De Maiziere took over an ossified CDU that had toed the communist line for 40 years.

He purged it of Stalinist fellow-travellers and committed it to democracy, a market economy and swift German union.

He gained his first experience in public office as a deputy premier in the caretaker coalition of reform communist prime minister Hans Modrow, who took over after his Stalinist predecessors fell to a pro-democracy movement last November.

EAST BERLIN, (Reuters): East Germany's new Defence Minister Reinhard Eppelmann, a pacifist pastor who once went to jail for refusing to do military service.

Eppelmann, 47, co-founded the conservative Democratic Awakening (DA), one of the fledgling parties that inspired the peaceful revolt that ousted the Stalinist regime last November.

A Protestant pastor turned politician, the bearded Eppelmann will now direct the conversion of military to civilian production as part of the move to unification with West Germany.

Like other members of East Germany's new government approved by Parliament on Thursday, he may not be long in the job.

Asked about abolishing his own post, he referred to the fast pace of unity and joked, "I may hardly have time to do that."

For the veteran Peacenik, it must seek like a dream come true to be in a position to slash the strength of the East German Army, the National Volksarmee (NVA).

He gave up pastoral duties in October 1989 to co-found DA, two weeks before Stalinist leader Erich Honecker was toppled.

He took over as DA leader three days before the March 18, 1990, elections when his chairman, Wolfgang Schnur, resigned after admitting he had been a security police informer.

Weakened by the scandal, the DA won less than one per cent of the votes but rode into government on the back of the East German Christian Democrats (CDU), its election partner.

The only DA member to win a government post, Eppelmann is arguably one of the most experienced of the politicians who now will steer their country into unity with West Germany.

In February, he became a minister without portfolio in the caretaker coalition government that piloted East Germany through a political vacuum to its first free election.

Eppelmann is married with four children.

Born in Berlin on Feb 12, 1943, Eppelmann studied architecture in the West but his ambitions were frustrated by the 1961 building of the Berlin Wall. In 1974, after turning to theology, he became pastor at East Berlin's Samaritan church, a centre of underground opposition.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

He led an appeal for "peace without weapons" in the early 1980s and was briefly jailed for opposing the deployment of nuclear missiles in East Germany.

British Reds
consider
extinction

LONDON, (Reuters): Britain's communists, latecomers to perestroika, are about to embark on their own mini-revolution which could spell the end of the party after 70 years.

Reflecting on a year which saw communist governments collapse under the weight of popular protest, leaders of the Communist Party of Great Britain (CPGB) say they too often turned a blind eye to corrupt rule in Eastern Europe.

Chris Myant, the party's new international secretary, welcomed the events of 1989 which he said sounded the death knell for communism around the world.

"There is no longer an international communist movement and this is good."

Fiaunt

"Some who flaunt the label 'communist' are among the perpetrators and supporters of some of the worst abuses against human rights and the environment," he said in a hard-hitting report to CPGB leaders.

British communists are preparing for what is being hailed as a "make-or-break" congress early next year in which the party could transform itself beyond recognition or simply disappear.

"We cannot call for democracy, openness and truth on the part of others without accepting that we were wrong to welcome Stalinism," Myant said.

Nina Temple, the party's new general secretary, said in an interview that British communists should have condemned more strongly what was happening in Eastern Europe.

She said communists in the 1930s and 40s would not believe Stalin had begun a reign of terror, ordering massive purges.

"I think they should have believed it because there were a lot of communists who went to the Soviet Union and came back to say these things were happening."

"I cannot make excuses for their attitudes," said Temple, 33, who took over the party leadership in January.

Thousands left the party in 1956 when it backed the Soviet invasion of Hungary but 12 years later a moderate swing in the CPGB led its congress to condemn the crushing of Czechoslovakia's Prague Spring reform movement by Soviet-led Warsaw Pact troops.

Criticism

The CPGB also criticised the Soviet invasion in Afghanistan in 1979 and the imposition of martial law in Poland in 1981.

Ties with China's ruling communists were broken after the Tiananmen Square crackdown last June, but despite their more critical stance leaders recognise reform of the party is long overdue.

Temple is heading moves towards one member, one vote before the party launches its search for a new identity — at present officials are elected by the executive committee.

Reforms will probably lead to the CPGB dropping the word "communist" from its name — a once unthinkable development "in a common place as communist parties in Europe vote themselves out of existence, or veer towards social democracy."

"We have three options — to stay as we are, to give up altogether or change drastically. The third way, which is the way I want to see things go, seems to be the one favoured by most of our members," Temple said.

She said the CPGB could even dissolve itself as a party to re-emerge as an association or a forum for "progressive" political thinking open to people from other leftist groups or parties.

Temple does not believe a communist party will ever get a candidate into Parliament again. The last time a communist sat in the House of Commons was in 1950 when membership was at an all-time high of more than 50,000.

Power base

The CPGB power base has always been in Britain's trade unions rather than in Parliament. Communists still sit on the ruling executives of nearly all Britain's major unions.

CPGB leaders are calling a conference of delegates representing its 7,500 members in autumn to debate party reforms, and proposals will be hammered out at an extraordinary congress next spring.

"We feel there is space for peaceful, civil demonstrations to change some of the inequalities in Britain and maybe that's the area of politics which we will be putting our efforts into rather than standing as another party in elections," Temple said.

In 1977 a pro-Soviet group broke away from the CPGB to form the New Communist Party. In 1985, a hardline faction controlling the party's newspaper the Morning Star was expelled from the party for campaigning against its policies and some later set up the Communist Party of Britain.

QUOTE ME

"For now I say no to the multi-party system, at least until we are cohesive enough as a nation. If we have many political parties we will have chaos as different tribes rush to form theirs because, at the moment, tribal inclinations and consciousness is still paramount in the minds of many Kenyans." Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi.

"The British church contacted us so we can help in the liberation of Terry Waite. We have made some contacts and we hope that those that hold the hostages will accept this appeal and free all the hostages." — Libyan Ambassador to the UN, Ali Triki.

"We have no clear physical evidence that Israel has provided such weapons to the government of Ethiopia. We have raised the subject of Israeli weapon shipments to Ethiopia (with Israel) and we've been told Israel is not supplying and would not supply cluster bombs." — A US official after Ethiopia dropped cluster bombs on rebels.

"If, indeed, a person deserves credit for facilitating the release of people held against their will — anyone in the world — I would certainly say, fine, give the person credit." — Bush at a news conference after the release of three Western hostages was attributed to Col Khaddafi.

"The documents show that in April and May of 1940, 15,000 Polish officers that were in these camps were taken over. Three hundred and ninety-four people were transferred to Gryzovetsky concentration camp but the main NKVD. There was never again any mention of them." Soviet news agency Tass on the massacre of Polish troops in the Katyn forest by Soviet troops during the Josef

Vague explanation

SIR: This has a reference to "Approb" executive board letter of April 11 under the heading "Positive contribution".

The whole explanation of the "AEB" is rather vague and PAC's Executive Committee has no comment but feel it would be a merely waste of time to analyse it. What we take a serious view is the first paragraph of "Positive contribution". "AEB" enumerated that "Approb" has nothing to do with the PAC and does not provide moral or material support to PAC.

PAC is purely a Pakistani cultural organisation and has never asked for any moral or material support from the "Approb" a so-called organisation of people of high rank and also PAC has nothing to do with Approb.

What we have demanded from "Approb" to take action against the culprit, whom we consider a black sheep of the society who used PAC's name for a programme and collected funds, for which he is scared to face PAC's officials.

M. Musa,

Kuwait.

Best seminar

SIR: This is in connection with letters of Haider Mehdhi and Kamal Azhar that appeared in the Arab Times of

April 3 and 9 respectively on Approb seminar.

Ajazuddin Shaikh has already given a fitting reply to Haider Mehdhi in the Arab Times of April 7 and there is no much to add.

I am not a member of Approb but I had the opportunity to attend the Approb seminar on March 25 and was very much impressed and pleased with the whole thing. It was by far the best seminar ever held by any Pakistani organisation in Kuwait. My friends who attended the seminar had the same opinion.

All the speakers appeared to be quite sincere and honest in their sentiments for Pakistan and left no doubts about the sincerity of Approb intentions and goals. The most commendable thing about Approb is that it is totally non-political organisation. Therefore one can say confidently that comments made by Haider and Kamal are totally biased and unfair. I really wonder why no one from Approb have come forward so far to answer the baseless accusations.

I do not understand what grudge these gentlemen have against Approb. May be it is the tale of "sour grapes".

Kamal Azhar's letter has also raised a few questions which needs to be answered i.e.

1. Is Kamal an authority to certify who is a good Muslim and who is not? Can he read what's in a person's mind and heart?

2. Does having a dual nationality mean one loses the love and sympathy for his/her native country?

It's quite strange, as it appears from Kamal's letter, that an organisation like Approb who holds a seminar

to celebrate country's national day and brings all the way from Pakistan a distinguished and honourable guest like Javed Iqbal to grace the event and incur all expenses for holding the seminar in one of the best and expensive hotels in Kuwait deserve no appreciations and have rendered no service to the country but on the other hand an organisation like PAC whose main activities seems to be limited to holding "Ghazal Nights" with perhaps paid invitations is serving Pakistan and Islam.

I am not against PAC or any other organisation rather I would request all Pakistani organisations in Kuwait to be positive and objective and give the devil its due. If they really mean to serve the country then instead of throwing mud at each other and make a laughing stock of themselves, they should sit together, discuss, convince, unite and combine their potentials to serve the best interest of the country.

A Pakistani

(Name & address supplied)

Editor's note: Correspondence on Approb is closed.

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Jordan, PLO officials discuss confederation

Idea accepted to both sides: Mahmoud Abbas

AMMAN, April 15, (AP) — A senior Palestinian Liberation Organisation figure said yesterday that officials are discussing a proposed Jordanian-Palestinian confederation that could follow an Arab-Israeli peace settlement.

PLO Executive Committee member Mahmoud Abbas made the statement after a two-hour meeting with Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran to prepare for a visit by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"The confederation is an issue which was proposed some time ago and it is accepted to both sides," Abbas said.

"And I believe it would not probably be implemented now but it is in our minds, it exists, it is desired and it is the ideal solution for both of us."

He said the confederation idea would be a main topic of discussions between King Hussein and Arafat, who is scheduled to visit Amman later this week.

Both PLO and Jordan agreed in February 1985 to work for a peace with Israel that would lead to a Palestinian state confederated with Jordan.

Trying to reconcile Syria, Iraq

Jordan for Arab unity

DAMASCUS, April 15, (AP) — Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan Kasseb arrived yesterday and confirmed that his country is still trying to reconcile Syria and Iraq.

"Jordan is endeavouring for a complete Arab solidarity," Kasseb said when asked about it. "Recent reports that his country was trying to end the rift between Damascus and Baghdad."

"This is a wish which should be realised in order to face all the challenges facing the Arabs, such as the mass Jewish emigration (to Israel)."

Kasseb said he was bringing a letter from Jordan's King Hussein for President Hafez Assad. The contents were not disclosed.

The Jordanian foreign minister said Jordan was seeking the convening of an Arab summit to discuss the Jewish emigration and other issues. The Syrian-Iraq rift has been building up such a summit.

Israeli officials have said hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews are expected to arrive in Israel in the next few years, a development that has sparked great bitterness to the Arab world.

There are fears that some of the newcomers will settle in the Israeli-occupied territories and possibly drive out Palestinians living there.

In seeking to reconcile Syria and Iraq, Jordan faces an uphill task.

Moscow boosts aid to Kabul

ISLAMABAD, April 15, (AP) — The Soviet Union has increased deliveries of weapons, food and fuel to Afghanistan and raised the number of its military advisers in the country, a senior Western diplomat said yesterday.

He estimated that total Soviet supplies were now worth \$350 to \$400 million a month, compared with around \$300 million a month last year. Arms and ammunition accounted for about 80 per cent of the total.

He also said the number of Soviet advisers had jumped from about 300 last September to around 500, with most of the newcomers arriving since Afghan President Najibullah foiled a coup in December.

Some advisers man missile batteries equipped with Soviet Scud-B missiles to combat anti-government guerrillas. Others are stationed in Kabul or with fighting units, Afghan experts say.

Since the last Soviet combat troops left Afghanistan in February last year, Najibullah's government has been sustained by a massive Soviet airlift.

Each day up to 50 big Soviet transport planes spiral down into Kabul, firing flare decoys to ward off any missiles fired by the mujahedeen guerrillas, to deliver arms and food.

More supplies are sent by road convoy down the Salang Highway from the Soviet border but the trucks are often attacked by the guerrillas as they cross the Hindu Kush mountains.

Meanwhile, Afghanistan President Najibullah says his regime in Kabul has emerged stronger after abortive March 6 coup attempt by his former defence minister General Shahinawaz Tanai.

In fact "the combat morale and spirit of the armed forces had further elevated after the coup attempt," he said in an exclusive interview to the correspondent of Islamabad English daily "Muslim" recently in Kabul, and carried by the newspaper on Saturday.



Commemorating resurrection

The peal of bells heralded the "miracle of the holy fire" Saturday and hundreds of Christian pilgrims rushed to light handfuls of candles in a 1,000-year-old ceremony commemorating Jesus' resurrection.

Old women quickly grasped at the flames from their candles before placing their open palms on their foreheads, crossing themselves and mumbling prayers. Candles were dropped over their heads and clothing as they held a cluster of 33 candles — one for each year they believe Jesus lived.

More than 1,500 Christian pilgrims and curious visitors packed the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and watched from the courtyard and nearby roofs as people ran with burning candles to light other tapers.

Political overtones accompanied the religious ceremony — the most spectacular of Jerusalem's Easter celebrations. Before the ceremony, young men rushing into the church raised their candles along with "V" for victory signs.

They sang in Arabic: "we are the Christians who hold candles in our hands. National, national, national unity — Fatah, Popular Front and communists," referring to three factions of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Shortly after the ceremony ended, nearly a dozen Palestinian Christians held a vigil outside a disputed house in the Old City's Christian quarter and around the corner from the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

In a picture, a Christian pilgrim holding a cross and lit candles looks up as she passes a Station of the Cross while retracing Jesus Christ's route of crucifixion on the Via Dolorosa on Good Friday, March 13. (Reuters wirephoto)

Cairo approves new parties

Cairo orders

Europeans deported

CAIRO, April 15, (AP) — The supreme administrative court yesterday approved the formation of three new political parties, bringing to eight the number of opposition parties in Egypt.

Judge Anwar Mahfouz rejected the application requested of a fourth political party.

The court's rulings ended a four-year-old legal battle. The supreme administrative court's ruling is final.

The three newly approved parties are named "Young Egypt," "The Greens" and "The Unionist Democratic Party." Their programmes were not immediately known but Judge Mahfouz said that their policies were "compatible with the policy of the state."

The rejected party, "The Nasserite Party" which follows the socialist policies of late President Gamal Abdel Nasser, was turned down because it was "retrogressive," Judge Mahfouz said.

President Hosni Mubarak's National Democratic Party has a ruling majority in Parliament. The five other opposition parties in Egypt are the rightist Wafd Party, The Muslim Fundamentalist Union Party, The Socialist Labour Party, The Islamist Liberal Party and the pro-Moscow National Unionist Progressive Party.

Green party leaders say they will concentrate on boosting public awareness of ecological issues rather than seeking political power. They

He denied press reports that documents were confiscated. One report said German-language leaflets "misinterpreted" verses of the Holy Quran. Yassin said proselytizing is not an offense under Egyptian law "unless it is coupled with action to stir up trouble between religious communities." It is proven in court that is punishable by up to five years' imprisonment, he said.

In practice, proselytizing by Christians is frowned upon. Yassin identified the three Europeans as Stefan Walter and Roland Grysnyr of Switzerland and Michael Joseph of West Germany, all in their late 20s. He did not give their hometowns.

Bruno Schmidt, consular officer at the Swiss embassy, said he planned to visit the Swiss detainees on Saturday. He said they were arrested on Wednesday. West German Consul Dorothea Bismann refused all comment.

He denied press reports that documents were confiscated. One report said German-language leaflets "misinterpreted" verses of the Holy Quran. Yassin said proselytizing is not an offense under Egyptian law "unless it is coupled with action to stir up trouble between religious communities." It is proven in court that is punishable by up to five years' imprisonment, he said.

In practice, proselytizing by Christians is frowned upon. Yassin identified the three Europeans as Stefan Walter and Roland Grysnyr of Switzerland and Michael Joseph of West Germany, all in their late 20s. He did not give their hometowns.

Bruno Schmidt, consular officer at the Swiss embassy, said he planned to visit the Swiss detainees on Saturday. He said they were arrested on Wednesday. West German Consul Dorothea Bismann refused all comment.

Christians battle

French bid to convince Aoun to step down

BEIRUT, April 15, (AP) — Rival Christian forces battled with tank cannon, mortars and machine guns in east Beirut yesterday as France was reported to be trying to convince Gen. Michel Aoun to step down.

At least seven people were wounded in a one-hour early morning battle along the edges of the hilltop residential district of Ashrafieh, a stronghold of Samir Geagea's Lebanese Forces militia.

Aoun's 19,000 troops and Geagea's militia have fought each other to a standstill since Jan. 30, killing 575 people and wounding 2,376 in their quest for dominance of the 310-square-mile (800 sq km) Christian enclave.

The inconclusive showdown also has inflicted damage on property estimated at \$1 billion and forced about 400,000 people of the exclusive one million population to flee to safer areas in Lebanon and neighbouring states.

The two sides, blamed each other for the morning flareup, which coincided with talks in Lebanon by Arab League envoy Lakhdar Brahimi in an effort to salvage a peace pact, reached more than five months ago in end Lebanon's civil war.

The peace accord was worked out by Lebanese leg-

islators at the Saudi resort of Taif under Arab League auspices last October.

Aoun has rejected the Taif accord along with the election of Syrian-backed President Elias Hrawi a month later.

Meanwhile, a Lebanese newspaper unveiled in Beirut on Saturday that President Elias Hrawi visited Damascus earlier this week and met with President Hafez Assad.

Quoting "reliable" sources, As-Safir said that Hrawi secretly visited Syria four days ago and held intensive talks with President Assad and his deputy Abdelhameed Khaddam.

The Syrian-Lebanese summit, the paper added, discussed the situation in the Lebanese capital and Arab League's efforts to end fighting between the militias.

The talks also tackled proposals by leader of the Lebanese militias Samir Geagea concerning turning over barracks and areas his forces control to the Lebanese government, according to the paper.

This is the second trip by Hrawi to Syria following his election as president last November.

Labour bid to break impasse

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 15, (Reuters) — Israeli Labour Party leaders meet today to plot a strategy for breaking a parliamentary deadlock and forming a government without the right-wing Likud Party.

Israeli television quoted unnamed Labour cabinet ministers as saying the party's prospects were fading but leader Shimon Peres said he was still determined to fight for a government dedicated to peace talks with Palestinians.

Peres last month led a no-confidence vote which brought down the coalition in which Labour was a partner. He said Likud Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was not taking steps necessary to convene proposed Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

Jerusalem's Latin patriarch, Archbishop Michel Sabbah, made an Easter appeal to Christians throughout the world yesterday to put pressure for an Arab-Israeli peace settlement.

Palestinian leaders from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip met visiting US senators yesterday and urged them to use their influence on Israel to revive peace efforts.

Peres, given until April 26 by President Chaim Herzog to put together a coalition, could face a challenge for the party leadership at a meeting of the executive on Thursday unless he made progress, Labour sources said.

"The hope is that by the time of the bureau meeting, we will be in a position to present something," a Peres aide said.

Army radio said Peres, who wants to form the first Labour government without Likud since 1977, secretly met the Rabbi who helped him topple Shamir's government to try to secure the five votes of the religious Shas Party.

Without the help of a religious party, Labour cannot have a majority in Parliament and would have to seek the participation of Likud.

Peres's rival for the party leadership, the more hawkish Yitzhak Rabin, denied last week that he wanted to oust Peres.

But Rabin, a popular defence minister in two Likud-Likud coalitions, issued a vague statement widely interpreted as leaving open both that option and the possibility of another partnership with Likud.

Likud leaders have said they will not join a Peres government.

Rabat forms rights body

RABAT, April 15, (UPI) — The Moroccan government has created a commission to investigate charges of widespread human rights violations, the independent newspaper Al Oubon Assayassi reported yesterday.

The commission was created at the instigation of King Hassan I, according to the newspaper, and will include representatives of the various Moroccan political parties and labour unions. It will be headed by the nation's top prosecutor.

Morocco was recently criticised by Amnesty International for alleged violations of rights.



Latest power broker

Rabbi Menachem Schneerson, 88, an ultra-orthodox Brooklyn rabbi who has never set foot in Israel is the latest power broker in the Israeli Labour Party's attempt to form a government. Schneerson heads the Chabad-Lubavitch movement and wields influence over two members of the Agudat Israel Party, which had agreed to back Labour but then pulled out. One of the party members cited pressure from Schneerson. (Reuters wirephoto)

French success raises questions

All hostages freed

PARIS, April 15, (AP) — France has had 11 citizens held hostage in the Middle East, and it has managed to free them all.

Is it a Gallic flair for diplomacy or cynical deals with terrorists and their sponsors that account for France's success?

Is there, as one commentator asked, a special French method that can "manoeuvre around the obstacle that others run into?"

France makes an important distinction, said Basma Kodmani-Darwish, an expert on French-Middle East relations: "It doesn't bargain with terrorist groups. It negotiates with states."

Each time hostages come home, top government officials find themselves denying that France panders to terrorists.

"And it's true, it cannot be criticized" on that count, said Ms. Kodmani-Darwish, who works for the French Institute for International Relations. "But it is also a hypocritical nation."

France came under fire from many prominent Western newspapers for lauding Col. Moammar Khaddafi of Libya for his role in securing the release Tuesday of French hostage Jacqueline Valente, her Belgian companion and their child.

The three were held for more than two years by the Libyan-controlled Fatah-Revolutionary Council, headed by Abu Nidal.

Detractors draw little distinction between Abu Nidal's group and Khaddafi. France did.

Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, who praised Khaddafi's "noble and humanitarian" step in seeking the truce's freedom and promised improved relations, said France did not talk with the abductors. He denied that France traded three jet fighters — sent to Libya several weeks ago — for the hostages.

France managed to free 10 of 11 hostages in 1986-88, when conservative Premier Jacques Chirac was in power.

French thank-yous that followed those releases were never so effusive as those proffered to Khaddafi. But France made blatant concessions to Iran for the release of hostages held by Iranian-backed groups in Lebanon.

All but one item on Iran's shopping list was met by the French, who expelled Iranian dissident Massoud Rajavi, normalized relations with Iran and repaid part of a billion-dollar debt dating to the days of the toppled Shah.

The only outstanding demand is freeing Anis Naccache, serving a life sentence in France for the attempted 1980 assassination of the exiled former Iranian Premier Shahpour Bakhtiari. Khaddafi called for freedom for Middle Eastern "political prisoners" in Europe, and it remains in his hands whether Naccache will go free.

"The true French art is hypocrisy," columnist Richard Cohen wrote this week in the Washington Post. The French prattle on like a humanitarian, saying whatever seems effective at the moment, and this particular moment... Khaddafi seems in line for the Legion of Honour. He freed three hostages.

Hypocrisy was a word often used abroad each time France obtained the release of hostages. But the French view themselves differently.

"There is here a certain resigned tolerance for half-truths or half-lies for reasons of state, perhaps more so than elsewhere," the leftist daily Liberation said in an editorial.

French President Francois Mitterrand has thanked Algeria for its role in the release of a French hostage in Lebanon, the Algerian news agency APS reported on Saturday.

An extremist Palestinian group, the Fatah Revolutionary Council, led by Abu Nidal, freed Frenchwoman Jacqueline Valente, her Belgian lover and their two-year-old daughter last Tuesday after holding them captive for more than two years.

Mitterrand thanked Algerian President Chadli Benjedid in a message for having "been concerned with the case on several occasions," the agency said without elaborating.

Swiss Red Cross hostage Erriquez turns 24 in captivity

BEIRUT, April 15, (AP) — Swiss Red Cross worker Elu Erriquez turned 24 today, his first birthday in captivity since he was kidnapped last year outside an artificial film centre in the southern city of Sidon.

Nothing has been heard from Erriquez and his Swiss colleague Emmanuel Christen, 33, who were kidnapped Oct. 6. They worked at the on-hedge centre of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The Red Cross spokesman in Beirut, Roland Sidler, said the humanitarian organisation has been "in contact with all leaders of all movements, groups and authorities all over Lebanon... in order to ask again and again for

their help to resolve this issue."

But Sidler admitted the contacts have produced "nothing for the moment."

"At the beginning, we had promises from all the leaders to do their best to solve this problem," Sidler said, adding, "what's the meaning of doing their best if there have been no results after six months?"

Now, the only thing the Red Cross can do is "ask (the leaders) to hang more force to this 'best' to try to go deeper in what they have done up until now," he said.

Sidler noted that no group has claimed responsibility for the abduction of the Swiss workers, and he said the Red Cross has received "no

sign, no indication" of who was behind it.

However, police have said the Libyan-backed Palestinian Fatah-Revolutionary Council, led by Abu Nidal, is the prime suspect.

The group has denied any responsibility, and it issued two appeals early this month for the kidnappers to release Erriquez and Christen.

In the first call, the Abu Nidal faction offered "to provide all the guarantees demanded by the kidnappers..."

The second plea was made by Fatah-Revolutionary Council spokesman Wajid Khaleel on April 10, the day the group released three European hostages in response to an

Furore may dissuade settlers

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 15, (AP) — Mayor Teddy Kolek said yesterday he feared the furore over the new Jewish settlement in the Christian quarter would dissuade Soviet immigrants from moving to the city, an official said.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, meanwhile, a Palestinian accused of collaborating with Israel died overnight of beating injuries suffered earlier in the week, hospital officials said.

They said Faud Daud Timraz, 30, had been admitted to Shifa Hospital in serious condition on April 9 after he was beaten by masked Arab assailants.

Arab reporters said Timraz was a suspected collaborator. His death brought to 207 the number of Palestinians killed by their Arab brethren, most on suspicion of collaborating with Israel.

At least 573 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli soldiers or civilians during the 28-month long uprising against Israeli rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. Forty-three Israeli have also died.

Speaking to five visiting US Senators, Kolek criticised Wednesday's occupation of a building complex in the Christian section of the walled Old City by some 150 Jewish nationalists saying they were "extremists who concentrate only on themselves and their religious fervour."

"Once again annexed Jerusalem will be portrayed as a violent city and this will harm tourism, scare away potential investors and dissuade Soviet immigrants from ebbing annexed Jerusalem as their home," spokeswoman Bonnie Berer quoted him as saying.

Kolek has estimated that some 1,200 recent Soviet immigrants have settled in annexed Jerusalem and Israeli officials have estimated that over half a million Soviet Jews were expected to immigrate to Israel in the next three years.

Kolek's remarks came after the Senators, led by Senate Republican leader Robert Dole, voiced their concern over the events surrounding the Jewish settlements, including Thursday's dispersal by tear-gas of hundreds of demonstrators protesting the move.

Meanwhile, some 50 Christian and Muslim Palestinians demonstrated outside the 72-room complex located in the heart of the Christian neighbourhood.

While armed border police and a contingent from the special police anti-terror squad guarded the building, the protesters enacted "there is no place for settlers in the holy city," Arab reporters said.

In the Gaza city, soldiers ordered the central market shut and imposed a curfew after Palestinian students blocked the main Omar Al Muktar Street with burning tyres and clashed with Israeli troops, Arab reports said.

They said at least six persons were wounded during scattered clashes throughout the occupied Gaza Strip, including a 9-year-old boy from the Jabalya refugee camp who was hit in the right knee by army gunfire.

The army said there were isolated stone-throwing clashes between soldiers and students after school let out and said they were eeking the reports of wounded.

A Muslim militant group denounced the takeover by Jews of a disputed building inside the walled Old City of annexed Jerusalem.

The Islamic resistance movement, Hamas, also condemned the tear-gassing of Christian clergymen opposing Jewish settlement of St John's hospice, a large complex near the church of the Holy Sepulchre, the traditional site of Jesus' entombment.

An American Jewish leader Seymour Reich has condemned the settlement by 150 Jews in a disputed Old City of annexed Jerusalem.

Reich, who is both international president of B'Nai B'Rith and chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish organisations, denounced it as offensive.

appeal by Libyan leader Col Moammar Khaddafi.

The three were Jacqueline Valente of France, her boyfriend, Fernand Houckens of Belgium, and their daughter, Sophie-Liberte, who was born in captivity.

Sidler said the International Red Cross was "pleased with any appeal made by any group or personality to solve this problem."

He added that appeals made by different groups recently and "initiated from different areas allow us to hope that something is moving in the right direction."

EVENTS

Why Al is Cagney and Lacey's top cop

He may be watched by millions on TV, but few people know Al Waxman's name. He's the tough-talking police chief in Cagney and Lacey, who puts the hard edge on his performance by going on patrol with real policemen

Al says: "I've been a waiter, I've been a bouncer. I've been with work and without work. The experiences have taught me about life, people and the things that make them tick. It has to make you a better actor to understand these feelings."

To start with, Al didn't set out to be an actor. Instead he just did it as a hobby, as he studied at the University of Western Ontario and Toronto's Law School.

Al explains: "I thought I wanted to be a lawyer, but after I got into law school I realised it wasn't what I wanted. Acting had always been my favourite hobby so I decided to go for it."

Now Al commutes to Los Angeles, where Cagney and Lacey is filmed three times a month which takes up most of his time. In the past though he has also appeared on stage. In Canada he landed the title role in the blockbuster production The King of Kensington for which he won the Canadian equivalent of an Emmy.

Cagney and Lacey has opened up other police roles for Waxman too. In the film Collision Course he plays "a racist, backstabbing whiner" — a cop who is the complete opposite to Lt Samuels.

He says: "Samuels was pretty nasty in the pilot film. He had no respect for policemen. But over the years, he has gradually learned to respect Cagney and Lacey. Now he even has a fondness for them."

Yet there is little of Waxman in the character of Lt Samuels. "I'm not like him. I enjoy being with my family," Al explains. "I like to work but I don't look at work as an escape from home, like Samuels does."

For Al, home is certainly where the heart is — and his wife, Sara, is one of his biggest fans and supporters. "When things were going badly at work, my marriage became so good that it was soon more important than anything, even my career," he adds.

Today, Al still spends as much time as he can with his wife, a

cooking columnist and his two sons, Toby, 16, and Adam, 14.

Now Al is looking forward to the new series of Cagney and Lacey, which will see some interesting developments. For a start, Al will be seen dating someone and he will become a grandfather for the first time.

Like many Hollywood actors Al is also turning his hand to directing and directed five episodes of Cagney and Lacey in the last series. "I like to see things from both sides of the camera," he says.

"I enjoy directing, especially when it's my show, because there is such a strong, mutual respect among all the cast members."

"On set it's an atmosphere of love and friendship. That's what makes a show like this really work, because it can't help but come through to the audience."

With Cagney and Lacey recently scooping a prize as one of America's top TV shows it's obviously a winning formula. One Al is determined to keep going....

ACTOR Al Waxman has learned not to get offended when people come up to him in the street for an autograph — even though they don't know his name.

Al is the tough police chief Lieutenant Samuels in the hit TV show Cagney and Lacey — a role that has brought him fortune and recognition.

But playing alongside sexy Hollywood stars Sharon Glass and Tyne Dale, his name tends to get forgotten.

Al says: "On the street they'll look and say 'I know you, you're that guy who plays the police boss'."

"Everyone knows who Al Waxman is, but not many know my name."

Last year however, 52-year-old Al was recognised in a different fashion, when he was honoured by the New York police department for his realistic portrayal of Lt Samuels. He was only the second actor to have received the award — the first

being Telly Savalas more than a decade ago for his role as Kojak.

For Al keeps up with what is happening in the real police world, by doing the rounds with working policemen.

He even modelled the character of Lt Samuels on one of his personal police chums and explains: "Every chance I get, I go out and travel with the cops."

"I zeroed in on one guy who seemed exactly what Samuels ought to be — tough but fair, and above all human. That we won an award is a comment on the show. We obviously reflect the professional and personal lives of the police officer."

Cagney and Lacey fans think so too. Yet when the show was first screened on television it was a flop.

It started life as a one-off movie, then progressed to a short six episode series commissioned by CBS, only to be axed when it failed to achieve success in the ratings. Its small band of devoted fans soon called for the show to be reinstated though the second time round it proved a huge success.

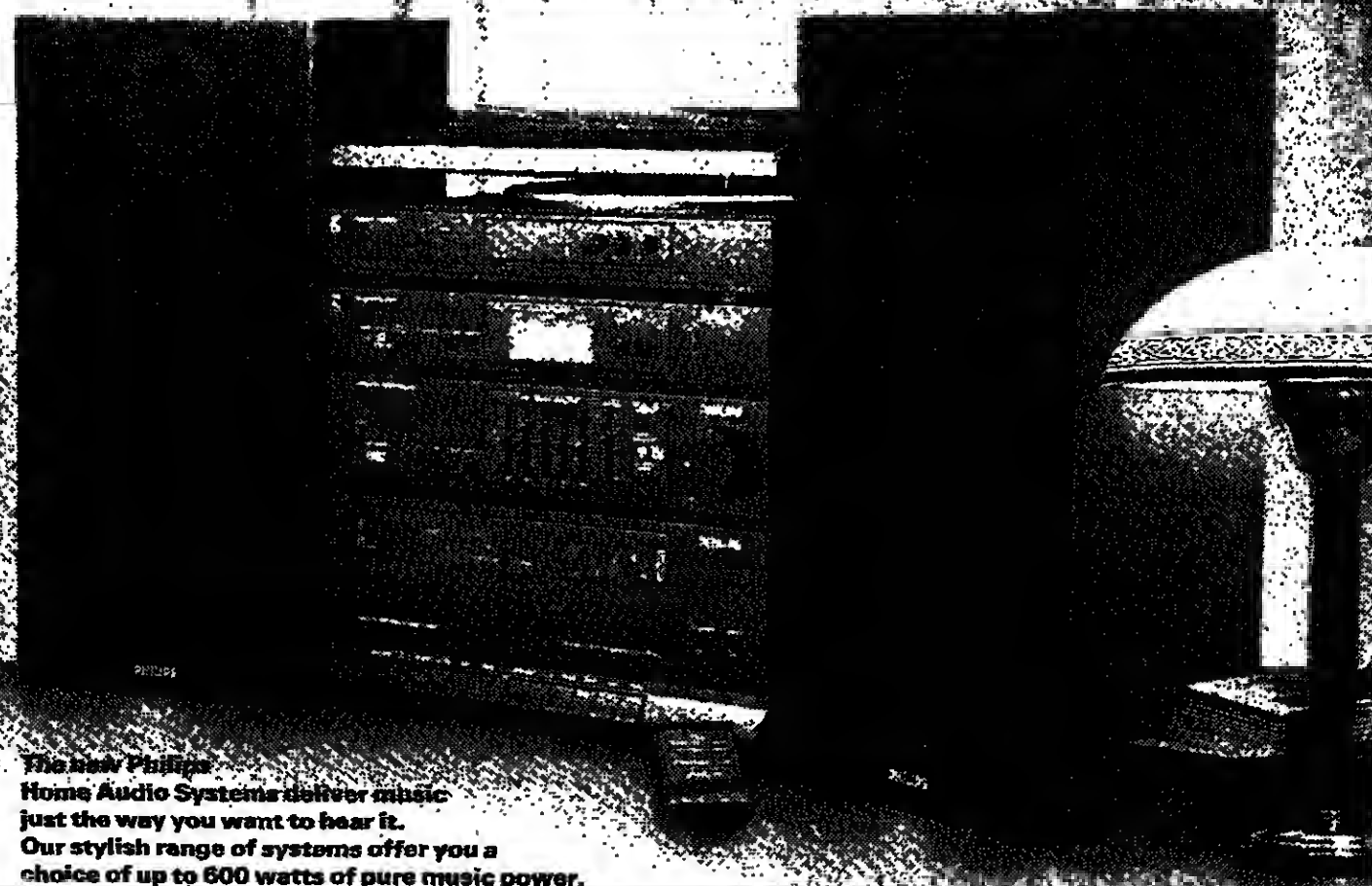
Waxman himself says he never lost faith in Cagney and Lacey's potential though. He recalls: "I knew the show wasn't over. We had more stories to tell."

He couldn't have been more right. The role has also brought Al the fame and fortune he had dreamed of as an actor. At 29, he was working as a cook in Los Angeles and after a bit part in an episode of TV's Ben Casey, he decided to give up acting altogether and return to his hometown of Toronto.



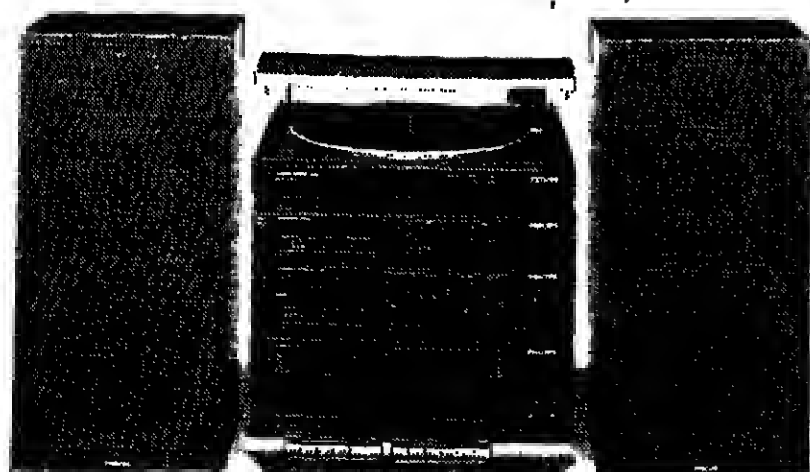
A fair cop: Al Waxman, who plays Lt Samuels the 'tough but fair' police boss of the hit TV series Cagney and Lacey

QUALITY IN SOUND, STYLE IN DESIGN...



The new Philips Home Audio Systems deliver music just the way you want to hear it. Our stylish range of systems offer you a choice of up to 600 watts of pure music power.

... IN EXCITING NEW SYSTEMS. FROM PHILIPS.

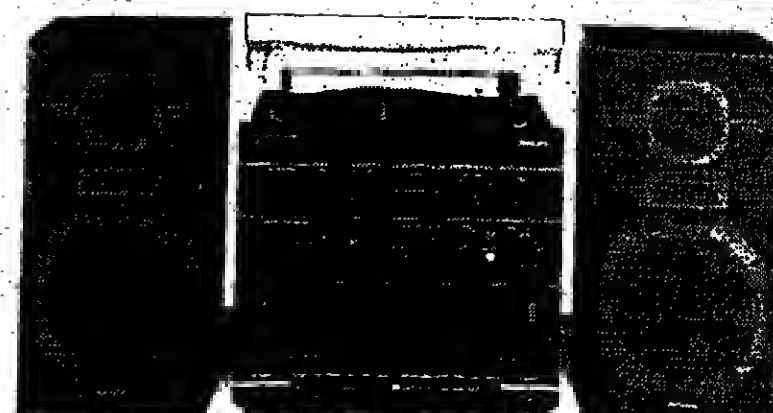


F 1395

- 600 watt (PMPO)
- 5-Band graphic Equalizer
- Dynamic Bass Boost
- Motor driver volume control
- Digital tuner with 20 presets
- Double cassette deck
- High speed dubbing
- Continuous play
- Auto return record player
- 3-way loud speaker, with bass reflex port
- Remote control

F 1385

- 300 watt (PMPO)
- 5 Band graphic Equalizer
- Dynamic Bass Boost
- Digital Tuner with 18 presets
- Double cassette deck
- High speed dubbing
- Continuous play
- Auto return record player
- 2-way loud speaker with bass reflex port.



- No down payment
- No guarantor
- First installment due in 3 months
- Installments upto 18 months

"Ask for details and conditions at Al Ghanim Showrooms."



Electronics Group
Yusuf A. Alghanim & Sons w.l.l.
Al-Sharq 2425560 • Sakriya 5708256 • Al-Farwaniya 4319070 • Al-Fahdhi 3910160
Al-Ra 4701507 • Al-Jumaina 2418631 • Fahd Al-Salem 2425978 • 2416866
Hawail 2511582 • Al-Rihab Complex 2547815 • Head Office 4842988 Ext. 2423 • 2422
Also available at our dealers and Bu Khamees Electronics (New St.) 2407245
An affiliate of
Alghanim INDUSTRIES

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK
PHILIPS

TELEVISION PROGRAMME

KTV 1

- 1.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 1.15 World Today via Satellite (repetition)
- 1.30 World Animals: cultural serial
- 2.00 Kabool Adventures: cartoon serial
- 2.30 Maa Al Sabereen: historical serial
- 3.10 Human Health: cultural programme
- 3.35 Maraya 88: Arabic serial (part 5)
- 4.15 Rasael Al Ekha: local programme
- 4.30 Raifat Al Hajjan: Arabic serial (part 21)
- 5.35 Hadeeth: Deen: Religious programme, presented by Sheikh Mohammed Metwalli Al Sharawi
- 6.15 Baada Al Eftar: religious programme
- 6.30 Mazenger: cartoon serial
- 7.00 Madeenat Al Ajayeb: local children's serial (part 21)
- 7.45 Night chemists, airlines and official advertisements
- 8.15 Security and citizens: local programme, prepared by the Ministry of the Interior
- 9.00 Public Relations office Juhayna: cultural programme (part 21)
- 9.45 Sawalef Min Al Madhi: local programme (part 21)
- 10.00 News in Arabic
- 10.45 Lil Hayat Bagiya: local serial (part 5)
- 12.00 Layali Al Helmya: Arabic serial (part 5)
- 1.15 Cultural late night show: presented and prepared by Amal Abdullah
- 2.30 News Summary
- 2.35 The World Today via Satellite
- 2.50 Holy Quran and Cutdown

KTV 2

- 8.00 Opening announcement and Holy Quran
- 8.10 A cartoon series for children
- 8.30 Charles in Charge: Nanny & Professor. Charles is charged by his professor to teach a number of the university students and prepare their thesis
- 9.00 News in English
- 9.30 Welcome Ramadan: A

religious programme on the occasion of Holy Ramadan

9.45 Around the World: A variety of topics, events and incidents from all over the world...

10.15 The Equalizer: The Visitation. An arms-monger orders his followers to kill a singer who refused to supply him with arms and ammunition. Post mortem examinations proved that the dead man's body hosts a dangerous germ!

11.00 Family Matters: Two Income Family. Harriette, Karl's wife is discharged from her work and Karl's mother takes over expenditure matters in a very strict way.

11.30 Classicour Movie: "Woman of the Year"

1.30 News in Brief

1.45 Magazine D'Actualite

CINEMA

- Al Andalus: Rolling Vengeance
- Al Sahmyah: The Survivor
- Al Hamra: Arabic film
- Drive-In: Arabic film
- Al Fardous: Dost
- Fahadhel Open: Khuda Kasam
- Fahadhel: The Blue Lugana
- Al Jahra: Halloween 4
- Granada: Chase
- Salehkhani: Supergirl
- Jleeh: Shato
- Almasad: Distant Thunder

PRAYERS

- Fajr: 5.00 am
- Zuhr: 11.45
- Asr: 3.22 pm
- Maghreb: 6.45
- Isha: 7.35

Narthana dance programmes

'NARTHANA' dance group of Mrs Prameela Surendran, who have entertained the public through their shows since the past few years, is now getting ready for their next presentations.

The first will be a two-hour dance programme by Narthana at Sharq Co-operative Society Auditorium on April 27, in connection with the Kuwait-India Telugu Association anniversary celebrations.

On May 10, Narthana will celebrate its sixth anniversary and Parents Day at Indian Embassy Hall with dances, music and dinner. The entire show will be for 3 hours.

In the first week of November, Narthana is planning to stage a show which is entirely different than its previous ones. The show will consist of short ballets, and presentation of short Nritrasilas based on stories of Arabian Nights, and Bible stories etc.



Surendran, the director of Narthana, said that apart from the daily practice of Indian classical dances, these type of frequent stage programmes help to arouse the interest of students in this art, and gives confidence and a chance to correct their errors.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Japan's economy forecast in '90

TOKYO, April 15, (UPI) — Influential Japanese think tanks have predicted Japan's economy will continue sustained growth in fiscal 1990 despite the recent slump in the stock market and rising interest rates.

Research institutes of the "big four" brokerage houses said, however, they were forced to revise downward their projections because of the dramatic change for the worse in Japan's economic environment, which they said would trim Japan's net economic growth by 0.1 percent to 0.3 percent.

The government, anticipating robust personal consumption and capital investment by corporations, has projected a net 4.0 percent growth for Japan's economy in fiscal 1990, which began April 1.

The research institutes of Nomura, Daiwa, Nikko and Yamaichi Securities companies said Japan's economy is certain to continue its expansion, extending beyond the second longest span of continuous growth after World War II.

The revised economic growth rates projected by the four companies ranged from 3.9 percent to 4.4 percent.

The government said Japan's economy which entered the 41st consecutive month of expansion in April is certain to exceed the second postwar record of 42 months of expansion recorded from June 1958 to December 1961.

The research institutes said personal consumption would remain steady despite the recent tumble on the Tokyo Stock Exchange because of substantial wage hikes earned by organized workers this spring.

Japanese workers earned wage increases of slightly less than 6.0 percent this year, the highest in several years because of good corporate earnings, the Federation of Employers' Associations reported.

The research institutes said the recent stock market slump and rising interest rates were responsible for downward revision of their projections.

The central bank action led to higher interest rates on commercial loans, resulting in slower corporate capital investment and housing investment.

The recent stock price tumble forced many enterprises to postpone their plans to raise funds on the market through issuance of new shares and bonds.

The total market value of the Tokyo Stock Exchange slumped 24.0 percent to 448 trillion yen (\$2.89 trillion) from a high of 591 trillion yen (\$3.8 trillion) Dec 29.

The blue chip Nikkei average of 225 selected issues has fallen 25.0 percent to 29,213.92 yen since the beginning of this year.

The long-term credit bank said its survey conducted earlier this year showed that plant and equipment investment expenditures by Japanese corporations in fiscal 1990 will remain brisk and total 22.285 trillion yen (\$144 billion), up 9.0 percent over last year.

The Nomura Research Institute said slow economic growth will cause favourable impact, easing inflationary pressure and stabilising domestic prices.

The central bank said, however, that Japan's wholesale prices in fiscal 1989 rose 3.5 percent, the first rise in five years, largely because of a weak yen and higher crude oil prices.

The stronger yen makes Japanese products more competitive on overseas markets but makes imported goods more expensive.

The yen's value has declined 13.22 yen or 9.0 percent to 158.42 yen per dollar from 145.20 at the beginning of this year.

Iran to spend about \$6b on petrochemicals

NICOSIA, April 15, (Reuters) — Iran is to spend nearly \$6 billion on its petrochemical industry over the next five years, the country's Deputy Oil Minister Ahmad Rahgozar was yesterday reported as saying.

The Iranian news agency IRNA received in Nicosia, quoted Rahgozar

as telling the quarterly magazine "Iran Exports" that more than half of the \$5.7 billion being spent on the industry would come from foreign exchange.

He said that a billion dollars alone would be spent on the mothballed petrochemical plant at Bandar Khomeini, hit by Iraqi air attacks

during the Gulf war.

Japan, which had been building the plant with the Iranians, pulled out of the scheme during the war and decided against resuming work following the ceasefire in August, 1988 saying it would be cheaper to build a new plant.

Rahgozar, who is also managing

director of the National Petrochemical Company (NPC), was quoted as saying several foreign companies had been approached to work on the project and while no firm decision had yet been taken, South Korea was most likely to be awarded the contract.

In February, French engineering

group Technip said it had won a management contract for the "rehabilitation, construction and start-up" of the Bandar Khomeini plant.

Japan's Mitsui Group had earlier paid Iran \$900 million in compensation for withdrawing from the project.

Rahgozar said \$1 billion would be

allocated to a plant at Arak which was expected to be producing by 1992 and a scheme at Isfahan would get a \$300 million boost.

"The Tabriz project will receive \$900 million and will be built with foreign co-operation through a buy-back system," Rahgozar said.

GATT aims to ease barriers to the flow of goods

Ministers to review free trade reform

WASHINGTON, April 15, (Reuters) — Leaders of the international free trade movement meet in Mexico this week aiming to revive efforts to break down barriers to world commerce.

Ministers from members of the free trade grouping, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), will try to solve disputes ranging from farm subsidies to investment.

"We want to get the negotiations going forward... energise the process," said US trade representative Carla Hills of the conference in the Pacific Coast resort of Puerto Vallarta.

Many nations, rich and poor alike, remain far apart on key issues that could block a successful conclusion of the current round of GATT talks, scheduled to end in December in Brussels.

"At this stage, everybody is concerned that we haven't shifted into high gear," said one senior trade official.

Stands taken by GATT's 97 members since the latest four-year round of negotiations began in Uruguay in September 1988 vary radically, and the official said "there is an awful lot to do."

GATT aims to ease barriers to the global flow of goods and services but its members are divided on how to achieve that and how to extend its free-trade rules to agriculture and fast-growing areas like banking and other financial services.

The United States and major produce exporters want to end subsidies, but are being fought by the European Community (EEC).

Industrial nations, including the United States and the 12-member EEC, want GATT rules widened to cover trade in services such as banking, telecommunications and construction.

But they are being opposed by some developing nations, which see the effort as "neo-colonialism" — to enable the established banking giants of the rich industrialised world swallow up the fledgling banks of the Third World.

The Mexico meeting, starting on Wednesday, comes at a time of trade tensions between Japan and the United States and a wary truce between Washington and Brussels over EEC moves toward a single market, but officials say this should not deter progress.

They say the stakes are too high and, moreover, Japan, the United States and EEC are in the same corner on many contentious issues, though not on farm subsidies.

Hills has said repeatedly that the United States would walk away from the GATT negotiations rather than accept compromises that were not in its best interests.

She has said compromise was necessary, but "we will not disarm unilaterally. Trade reform means reform by all."

In addition to ending farm subsidies and bringing services under world trade rules, the United States and GATT's other members have agreed to work to end piracy of such intellectual property rights as patents and copyrights.

The senior trade official, who asked not to be named, said the meeting in Mexico would be the last major chance for political positions to be staked out in time for a July meeting of GATT's trade negotiations committee.

He said GATT Secretary General Arthur Dunkel wanted a draft final agreement written in July, even though it would contain qualifications to be worked out before the December talks.

Bank cuts rates on deposits

BEIJING, April 15, (AP) — Interest rates on bank deposits were reduced by 1.26 percentage points today in a move aimed at stimulating China's sluggish economy.

The People's Bank of China, the central bank, said the new rates would apply to deposits by individuals, enterprises and institutions, the official press reported.

They follow a decision by the bank to lower interest rates on business loans by the same 1.26 percentage points March 21.

The interest rate on a one-year deposit will fall from 11.34 to 10.08 percent, while the rate for a three-year deposit will drop from 13.14 percent to 11.88 percent.

News reports quoted a bank spokesman as saying the rates were lowered to maintain the stability of the money market and protect the interests of depositors at a time when commodity prices have been dropping steadily.

Tough austerity measures imposed in late 1988 have succeeded in reducing inflation from a high of more than 30 percent to about 4 percent in February, but at the cost of a sharp economic slowdown that has chilled consumer demand and led to thousands of plant closures.

In recent months the government, concerned about economic recession, has begun easing up on its tight credit policies and increasing the money supply to bail out debt-ridden companies.

People's Bank governor Li Guixian said the reduction of interest rates on loans in March would cut enterprise debt burdens by 17 billion yuan (\$3.6 billion) a year.

Currency dealer hanged

KHARTOUM, April 15, (AP) — A black market foreign currency dealer, convicted of trying to smuggle more than \$21,000 to Kenya, was hanged to death yesterday, a relative said today.

He is the third convicted foreign currency dealer to be hanged by military strongman Lt Gen. Omar Hassan Al-Bashir since he made the crime punishable by death shortly after he came to power June 30.

The relative, who declined to be named, identified the convicted man as Arkangelo Iga Daro, a southern Sudanese in his twenties.

World Bank loan for Lagos

LAGOS, April 15, (Opecna) — Nigerian and World Bank officials are scheduled to meet here next week to initial a \$70 million loan agreement for the National Electric Power Authority (Nepa).

A source told Opecna that the bank was keen that Nepa should transform itself into an efficient organisation.

Contacts taking place Opec to resolve oil crisis

QUITO, Ecuador, April 15, (Reuters) — The 13 members of the Opec oil organisation are making efforts to resolve the current crisis in world oil markets, a senior Ecuadorian energy official said yesterday.

"Contacts are taking place at ministerial level to see what is the best action at this time, but still there is nothing concrete, nothing has been decided yet," said the government official.

The current world-wide oil glut has led to a sharp drop in crude prices. West Texas Intermediate, the benchmark US crude, fell 28 cents to \$17.78 a barrel on Thursday, down from nearly \$23 a barrel at the beginning of the year. The markets were closed on Friday.

The situation of oil production in the Gulf countries is being analysed especially, the Ecuadorian official said.

On Thursday, Ecuador's Deputy Energy Minister Carlos Izurieta said the oversupply of crude and depressed oil prices were delaying the shipment of the country's crude by long-term buyers.

The Ecuadorian official said Opec nations had considered moving up a regular conference scheduled for May or calling a meeting of the Opec monitoring committee but felt concrete proposals would have to be presented beforehand to avoid raising expectations.

Izurieta said in urgent meeting of Opec at a time when some members might be producing above their quotas could harm the unity of the organisation.

He said Opec pumped an average 24 million barrels of crude per day in March, two million barrels above the daily quota.

Meanwhile, an Omani newspaper expressed concern yesterday at instability in world oil markets and cautioned against overproduction.

"This instability is a cause for concern to all oil-producing states, whether Opec or non-Opec members," the Omani Daily said in an editorial.

"Exceeding oil production quotas and the tendency to produce more oil not only lead to lower prices but eventually mean a waste of this irreplaceable energy," the Omani News Agency, monitored in Cyprus, quoted the paper as saying.

They also hamper efforts... within and outside Opec to stabilise oil prices at \$18 per barrel," the paper said.

An oil glut has sent world prices tumbling to about \$18 a barrel from nearly \$23 at the beginning of the year.

GOLDEN TIMES AHEAD WITH INDUS VALLEY



Indus Valley rice lovers now have something very exciting to look forward to in the coming weeks. Hindustan Lever has announced a major promotion to reinforce the position of their popular Basmati rice product — Indus Valley. Set to coincide with Ramadan, the promotion itself is simple yet very interesting. Consumers willing to take up the challenge stand the chance of winning nearly a kilo of gold over the next six weeks. Commenting on the promotion Mr Saurav Adhikari, Operations Manager (Exports), said "We wanted to make Ramadan very special for our loyal customers and this was the perfect way of doing so".

HLL's idea of offering a 'golden reward' too is appropriate as it fully backs Indus Valley's claim of being the only product to offer consumers the purest Basmati rice in the market. And considering its distinct flavour and aroma, its not surprising that Indus today is ahead of various other products in the same category.

With the promotion already off to a flying start the finish promises to be bright. Consumers who have so far enjoyed feasting with Indus Valley now have the chance of even striking it rich. Certainly for every one Indus Valley rice is now worth its weight in gold.

World marketing strategy Whirlpool goes pan-European

LONDON, April 15, (AP) — When American home appliance maker Whirlpool Corp. wanted to expand into Europe as part of its world marketing strategy, it found that although it is well-known in the United States, few Europeans had heard of it.

It also discovered that being big and American was no selling point.

But by entering a joint venture with the Dutch electronics giant NV Philips, and adopting a pan-European marketing strategy, Whirlpool may provide a valuable lesson for other US companies hoping to get inside the trade barrier-free Europe planned for 1992.

"Our ultimate goal by the end of this century is to establish the Whirlpool brand supreme around the world," said Jan Karel, managing director of the joint venture.

Early last year, Whirlpool acquired a 53-per cent stake in Philips' major domestic appliance business for \$470 million. Whirlpool says the deal makes it the world's No 1 manufacturer of major domestic appliances and gets it into the European market of 320 million consumers without having to start from scratch.

Whirlpool, which had \$4 billion in annual sales outside of Europe, got access to Philips' \$2-billion share of the European market.

The Benton Harbour, Michigan-based company eventually is expected to exercise an option to buy the business outright.

The venture, called Whirlpool International BV, is based in Comerio, Italy, and employs 14,000 people. It is the first company to sell one brand of domestic appliances across Europe, where the appliance market is fragmented by many brand names and varying standards.

Under the agreement, Whirlpool can use the Philips brand name until the end of the decade.

After a year of research, Whirlpool decided to adopt the name Philips Whirlpool, and it plans gradually to drop the name Philips, one country at a time.

Whirlpool is virtually unknown," said Derek Smith, editor of the British weekly Electrical and Radio Trading. "Frankly, I can't think of what else they would have done,

given that Philips is a well-established brand in Europe, and the UK particularly."

Whirlpool has had success with "transitional dual branding."

During the 1980s it acquired the air conditioning and electric stove businesses of Radio Corporation of America, better known as RCA, and called these products RCA Whirlpool for 12 years before dropping the RCA.

For this latest venture, Whirlpool's Paris-based advertising agency, Publicis FCi International, devised seven advertising campaigns in three languages. The campaigns are based on extensive market research, including interviews with more than 1,000 women in Britain, France, Austria and Spain.

"It took us a year of development to find the key to the door," said Nick Mote, Publicis' international co-ordinator for the account. "We wanted to be as broadly appealing as possible."

Mote said Whirlpool decided to target housewives rather than career "superwomen," who may be proliferating in Germany but are scarce in Spain.

Because Whirlpool is hard to pronounce in Spanish or French, the company decided to go with the English pronunciation.

The researchers found that the women interviewed were sceptical that the company's large size would guarantee quality, and they discovered strong anti-American sentiment among the British and Austrian women.

The end result is a \$100 million "Philips Whirlpool brings quality to life" ad campaign launched in mid-February.

The first television ad, seen in 14 European countries, looks futuristic, with a touch of magic. It shows a young mother entering a transparent kitchen which is made opaque by a golden swirl. The Whirlpool name and logo are spoken and shown repeatedly during the ad, but there is no reference to the United States or the company's size.

A dark-haired actress was chosen because brunettes are common in Europe — blondes are not. Even her outfit was a headache. Skirts are shorter in France than Spain. Pants were chosen because the skirt turned out too tight.

Indonesia may get massive aid again

JAKARTA, April 15, (Reuters) — Indonesia, saddled with one of the biggest foreign debts in the developing world, can expect another massive infusion of aid this year, visiting Netherlands Development Minister Jan Pronk said today.

Indonesia has really taken off as a developing country on the path to sustainable economic growth... everybody agrees that Indonesia during the last couple of years has had a very good economic performance," he told reporters at the end of a nine-day visit.

He also allayed concern his country might tie aid to Jakarta's human-rights record by signing new loans that had been delayed after an uproar in the Dutch parliament over Indonesia's execution in February of four long-term prisoners.

The four had been on death row for more than 20

years for their role in an abortive coup in 1965.

Pronk chairs Indonesia's donor club of industrial countries and international agencies. The Intergovernmental Group on Indonesia, which will meet in June to decide on aid for the current financial year, which began in April.

He said, "The total sum of aid to be pledged... will amount to about the same amount as last year (a record \$4.3 billion) or perhaps... a tiny bit higher."

More will be in project aid while special assistance, united aid for balance-of-payments support, will be below last year's \$1.8 billion, he said without giving figures.

The World Bank last year predicted 1990-91 special assistance would be \$1.2 billion while the Indonesian budget targets about 1.6 billion.

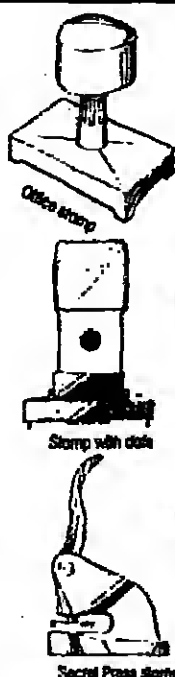
Coloured Perma Stamps No Need for Ink

Good for over 25,000 times

No need for the use of ink after today. Perma stamp is the only one in Kuwait that gives you coloured stamp. All sizes, many models ranging from the pocket stamp, stamps with date and the secret press stamps, are available. You have the option to select the blue, black, red or green or can ask for stamps with two or more colours according to demand

Al Zahid International Co.

Kuwait - Ahmad Al Jaber St. - near the banks complex
Tel. 2414314, 2428576 - P.O. Box 28885 - Safat - 13130 - Kuwait
Telex 46561 ZS.



Announcing the arrival of Famous Trowa Brand Indian Shirts For men

Also piece length of Bhilwara Mills Terry-wool at very reasonable price

Abdulaziz Al Faraj Est.
For Textile, Shop No. 4260, 1st Floor,
Souk Al Safat, Tel: 2408110

REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY For a medical equipment company

an experienced lady secretary
Fluent in English, well-versed in all the office routine work, knowledge of word processing and data entry. Candidates only holding transferable working visa to contact:

Mrs. John
Tel: 2444228 - 2411748 - 2411758
(between 9 am and 2 pm, Ramadan timings)

REQUIRED Male and female tailors Design master — previous experience essential

Call Tel. 2402436
from 10.00 am - 1.30 pm
and from 8.00 - 11.00 pm

WARNING

Brasilia M. Bosta, a Filipino national, holding passport No 6998627, left her employer's house and did not return.

Those who know her whereabouts are requested to call tel. 5315545 and 4874272. We warn those who hide or employ her of legal action.



For your advertisement

Please contact Advertising Department

**4816326/
Tel: 4816327**

BUSINESS

Slower growth for US economy

THERE were very few fresh factors this week to influence a specific dollar trend and it therefore remained within a narrow range, according to NBK weekly market review.

The market was surprised when retail sales fell for the second consecutive month by the largest amount for six months, providing further evidence that the economy is slowing in the eighth year of its expansion.

The dollar ended the week almost unchanged at DM1.67 and Yen 158.2.

We anticipate that the dollar will be well underpinned for the foreseeable future, benefiting from its safe-haven status in tandem to a volatile Japanese market and doubts about the full implications of events in Europe, and could indeed advance further.

The retail sales figure endorses last week's unemployment figures and suggest that US activity could be weaker than market expectations. The Central Bank is expected to concede to mounting political pressure from the administration for the need for a relaxation in monetary policy. However, against the need to fund the country's external deficit, and higher interest rates outside of the US, a significant downward adjustment in interest rates is not visualised.

Trading ranges for the coming week are forecast to be as follows: DM1.65-1.70 and Yen 157-161.

The pound lost ground this week due to nervousness about the political situation and in anticipation of increased inflationary pressures as confirmed by the rises in output prices, average earnings and the retail price index.

Factory gate prices reached a five year high whilst the RPI number, excluding mortgage payments, rose 6.3 per cent in the year to March and at the highest level since February 1983 when prices increased 6.7 per cent.

The pound ended the week at: £ \$1.64 and £ DM2.75.

Sterling's position remains fragile reflective of growing political concern, with the government currently over 20 per cent behind the opposition party in the opinion polls, as well as economic weakness.

Nevertheless current policy concerns remain with inflation. With wage settlements having reached 9.5 per cent, and unemployment still falling, set against slower output growth, this implies increased labour costs per unit of output. With inflation currently at 8.1 per cent and upward pressure being exerted on April's Retail Price Index by the introduction of the community change tax, inflation is likely to exceed 9.0 per cent before declining modestly and a further interest rate rise cannot be ruled out.

Trading ranges for the coming week are forecast to be as follows: DM2.72-2.76 and £/\$1.62-1.66.

Despite the on-going controversy over the likely conversion rate to be adopted for currency unification, the Deutschmark continued to trade within a fairly narrow range during the course of the week.

West Germany's retail sales rose an inflation-adjusted 4.3 per cent in February from the year earlier, while nominal sales climbed 6.5 per cent during the year.

As expected the G7 statement of concern regarding the weak yen following their meeting last weekend contributed very little towards underpinning the currency as it offered no specific policy commitments.

Given the volatility of the Japanese Stock market at present to the possibility of higher interest rates, the Japanese authorities are still expected to lag the market in raising interest rates. The yen market is likely to remain nervous for sometime to come and further yen depreciation is anticipated.

Japan's trade surplus in the fiscal year ended March 31, 1990, narrowed to an unadjusted \$59.68 billion from \$78.87 billion in 1988/89 whilst its trade surplus with the US also shrank to \$42.75 billion from \$48.96 billion for the same period.

Exchange Rates

Indian rupee	17.100
Sri Lanka rupee	7.420
Pakistan rupee	13.620
Bangladesh taka	8.610
US dollar	293.75
Pound sterling	48.700
UAE dirham	0.7995
Deutsche mark	17.990
Japanese yen	001858

Bid to help build hi-tech industry

Taiwanese return home from US

HSINCHU, Taiwan, April 15, (AP): C.T. Wu is back in Taiwan, leaving behind in the United States a promising career in high-tech communications, an \$800,000 house outside Washington and a lifestyle heoued.

Wu gave it all up to start his own company at the science-based industrial park in this city about 70 kilometres (43 miles) southwest of Taipei. Along with hundreds of well-educated professionals, Wu is returning to help extend Taiwan's economic miracle into the 21st century.

Wu, 36, lived the American dream during his 11 years in the United States, receiving a doctorate in communications and winning GTE's highest technical achievement award for his work in satellites.

But he decided to return to Taiwan in 1988 to take advantage of lower labour costs and easier access to capital to start up his own communications business.

"I'm an entrepreneur at heart," Wu explained from the bare offices of his 6-month-old company, National Datacom Corp., in the Industrial Park. Henry H. Sun, another fledgling entrepreneur at the Industrial Park, is chairman of the 1 1/2-year-old Coast Hitech Corp., which produces micro-wave components for radar and missiles.

Sun, 57, said he worked for ITT Corp. in space defence before setting up coast hitech with two partners who also came from the United States.

The co-founders view the company in part as a way "to pass on their knowledge and experience to the people in Taiwan," Sun said.

The returning experts are critical to Taiwan, an export-oriented economic powerhouse that is finding many of its low-skill manufacturing industries can no longer compete with neighbouring Asian countries offering cheaper land

and labour. The transformation is already making headway, as experts say Taiwan will soon become the world's fourth largest manufacturer of semiconductors. Among the more than 100 companies that have set up shop in the park are 25 semiconductor firms and more than 30 others involved in computer technology.

The government-run Industrial Park, established a decade ago, entices entrepreneurs with such incentives as profit tax holidays and duty exemptions.

The park has several representatives overseas, including one in the heart of California's high-tech "Silicon Valley," to help convince Taiwan's brightest to return home to start their own companies or join existing high-tech projects.

More than half of the 1,000 people with graduate degrees working in the

park have returned from overseas. Klaus C. Wiemer, president of Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., said he employs about 50 Taiwanese recruited from the United States.

"If it becomes known like I'm looking for a particular person like a quality control manager, than it's only a matter of weeks before the resumes start rolling in by fax," he said.

Wiemer, a US citizen whose company is a joint venture between the government and N.V. Philips of Holland, claims professionals are returning to Taiwan for several reasons.

Technology in the most advanced companies here is finally reaching levels comparable to that of US firms, so challenging jobs can now be found for top engineers.

While initial salaries in Taiwan may be relatively low, returning professionals can make a lot of money acquiring

stock in their new companies before they go public.

And, Wiemer noted, "Chinese are family oriented, so many of the people who left 10 to 20 years ago see their parents getting very old and now they want to come back and be close to them."

Wiemer said the drain of some top talent back to Taiwan, particularly with intense global competition in high-tech industries, "certainly is going to hurt (the United States), but at least the outflow is to a friendly nation."

A diplomat at the de facto US embassy in Taipei, speaking on condition of anonymity, said US officials are not worried about highly skilled Taiwanese leaving their posts in US companies.

Indeed, the number of returnees probably represents just a fraction. An bright Taiwanese who got abroad, an average of 6,500 Taiwan students leave

for US universities annually, according to the Education Ministry. Statistics indicate more than half stay, it said.

In addition, the government also might face the day when the same experts or their families begin heading back to the United States. Many of the returnees openly acknowledge they are put off by Taiwan's island's increasing crime, deteriorating environment and turbulent society.

"It's been very hard to adjust to life here," Wu said.

When asked if he was glad to be back, he responded: "Not really."

Sun wants to retire in the United States, where his wife and children still live, and Wu also plans to go back after five or six years.

"Mentality wise, I'm 100 per cent American," said Wu, who prominently displays in his office a hand-drawn flag, his colleagues gave him upon receiving US citizenship.

Gorbachev's advisers clash over package

Meeting on Soviet economic reforms

MOSCOW, April 15, (Reuters): President Mikhail Gorbachev's top advisers clashed yesterday over his nervously-awaited economic reforms designed to introduce the basics of a market economy.

The 16-member Presidential Council was joined by the Council of the Federation, made up of government leaders from the 15 Soviet republics, and by invited academic experts to try to set a course for Gorbachev's reforms.

The official news agency Tass said discussion was expected to continue next week but it gave no precise date.

It said all agreed with the Soviet leader's often stated view that urgent action was essential.

After state planning chief Yuri Maslyukov read out the proposed package there was an "exchange of opinions," a phrase normally signifying disagreement.

Tass listed 17 speakers, including such close Gorbachev aides as Alexander Yakovlev and

Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, and radical economist Abel Aganbegyan. Gorbachev himself was not mentioned as having spoken.

It was not clear whether Gorbachev originally intended the package to be finalised Saturday or whether an extension of the debate into a second day was foreseen.

Disagreement has surfaced in the past among radicals and conservatives in the leadership over the pace and depth of reform.

The government has denied that it plans to follow the economic "shock therapy" adopted by Poland, rumours of which sparked off fears of massive price rises and unemployment.

It has gone out of its way to prepare the people for some stiff belt-tightening, feeding them grim warnings and economic figures.

Officials have said the package will include new laws on private enterprise, banking, foreign investment, the breakup of some

state monopoly powers, taxation and price structure.

Government economist Leonid Abalkin has said no monetary reform is included and ruled out any move to make the rouble convertible in the near future.

Gorbachev has wasted no opportunity to press home the urgency of moving the economy rapidly towards his goal of a "regulated market economy" after decades of tight central planning.

He has promised if necessary to use presidential powers he acquired only last month to impose the most urgent parts of the package by decree, bypassing the slow-moving parliament.

Prices of Soviet goods, to be raised as the country moves towards a market economy, are to be grouped into three categories with varying degrees of state control, a senior official was quoted as saying yesterday.

State Prices Committee chair-

man Vyacheslav Senchagov said the increases would begin at some point this year but in different phases to protect low-income groups.

In an interview with the Communist Party daily Pravda, Senchagov said the state would continue to set prices for key commodities such as oil, gas, coal and ferrous metals but these would take account of currently higher prices on world markets.

"The state will retain, quite naturally, the right to establish prices for basic goods which have an effect on the conditions in which industry operates and on the level of retail prices," he told the daily.

A second group, he said, would be subject to "regulated prices" — which could rise and fall within prescribed limits. He did not specify which goods these would cover, but said fluctuations would depend on production and the relation between supply and demand.



Cargo conference

Cathay Pacific recently held their 1990 Middle East and India cargo conference in Bahrain. The meeting was chaired by Robert Atkinson, general manager Middle East and India, and attended by 27 delegates from offices in the Middle East, India and Hong Kong.

1989 was a successful year for cargo, both in the Middle East and India with revenue showing significant growth. Further, in addition to the recently introduced 'On board courier', a new product 'Cargo Express' will soon be launched in the market. Also in 1990 increased 747 freighter services will be introduced in Dubai bringing the total to 14 freighter services a week through Dubai — daily to Europe and daily to Hong Kong.

Attending from Head Office in Hong Kong were: Rowland Cobbold, marketing director and Simon Heale, general manager cargo.

For the future the mood is optimistic with 'the increased economic activity in the Middle East, sustained growth in India and increased commitment of Cathay Pacific cargo to this region with the launch of daily freighter services through Dubai' said Robert Atkinson, general manager Middle East & India.

Picture shows from left to right Padmanabhan Ramaswamy, Cargo Sales Supervisor, India; Rajeev Buhiraja, Pricing and Marketing Services Manager Middle East, Robert Atkinson, General Manager Middle East and India, Simon Heale, General Manager Cargo, Hong Kong, Fuad A Hussain, Cargo Sales Manager Middle East, and Rowland Cobbold, Marketing Director, Hong Kong.

Fresh move to establish ties

Seoul seeks E. European markets

SEOUL, April 15, (AP): South Korea, fresh from establishing ties with several East European nations in the past 14 months, is working hard to make the diplomatic thrust pay off.

South Korea's export-driven economy, now sluggish because of stockpiled inventories and low investments, may find new and lucrative markets in those nations.

"We have scored a great diplomatic success, and it's time to think about what we can reap from it," said South Korean Prime Minister Kang Young-Hoon, speaking recently in a radio interview.

The new diplomatic ties with capitalist South Korea at a time when several hard-line communist governments in Eastern Europe have given way to multiparty politics.

For years, South Korea was stymied in efforts to improve relations with those East bloc governments, primarily because of its own opposition to communist North Korea. North and South waged a war between 1950 and 1953.

South Korea's diplomatic deadlock was broken several months after the 1988 Olympics in Seoul with Hungary's acceptance of formal relations. The

Olympics served as a showcase for South Korea to demonstrate its economic prowess.

Seven other socialist governments that had allied themselves with North Korea have since established formal ties with South Korea. They are Poland, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, Albania and Mongolia.

Negotiations are also under way to set up diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, an arms provider and chief ally to North Korea.

By year's end, East Germany also is expected to open an embassy in Seoul, leaving Albania the only country left in Eastern Europe unrepresented in South Korea.

Government and business leaders hope the new initiatives will bring a windfall. They point to the billions of dollars Korean contractors earned in the 1970s and 80s in the oil-rich Middle East.

They shrug off worries that communist rule in Eastern Europe have left those nations bankrupt and cash deficient, pointing out that barter trade would allow South Korea to swap finished export goods for needed raw materials.

"Despite a considerable amount of risks and

problems, barter trade with them (communist nations) is still profitable," said Koo Pyong-Hwee, chairman of the Lucky Limited, a trading arm of the Lucky Group, a major conglomerate in South Korea.

Sagging economies were a chief concern of many of the East European nations in opening relations with South Korea. Seoul provided low-interest loans to Hungary and Poland, and has held economic co-operation talks with others.

South Korea is the world's 10th-largest trader, but its economy is in a slump. Korean exports grew only 2.7 per cent to \$62 billion last year.

The East European market is also valuable for South Korea, which is under US pressure to diversify its export outlets. The United States, which buys more than one-third of Korean exports, ran a trade deficit of \$4.3 billion with Seoul last year.

Government officials say South Korea's total trade volume with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries was \$4.2 billion in 1989 and the amount is expected to double in the next two to three years.

Short-dated KD rates up

KUWAIT, April 15, (Reuters): Short-dated rates firmed up on the Kuwaiti dinar interbank deposit market this morning. After last week's liquid market, many dealers were squaring up their positions in short dates and selling back to the Central Bank, dealers said.

Overnight, term/next, spot/next and one week were all being quoted around 8-3/4 8-3/8 pct.

Pepsico to spend \$1.1b to expand business

ATLANTA, April 14, (Reuters): Pepsico Inc., the giant food and beverage conglomerate, said yesterday that it plans to spend \$1.1 billion in 1990 to expand its worldwide business with the biggest chunk of cash going to its booming fast-food restaurant system.

In its annual report to stockholders, Pepsico said that the expenditure "reflects strategies to expand international snack food capacity, increase soft drink vending presence worldwide and expand domestic pizza delivery operations."

The company said 40 per cent of its capital spending this year will be devoted to expanding the Kentucky Fried Chicken, Pizza Hut and Taco Bell chains with the first split evenly between the Pepsi-Cola soft drink business and its Frito-lay and Europe-based Smiths

and Walkers snack foods. Pepsico is the world's biggest restaurant operator but still best-known among US consumers for its cola drinks.

Chairman D. Wayne Calloway said his company's focus for the new decade includes becoming "an even stronger player on a global scale."

"Although we've nearly tripled our international operating profits in the past two years, they still represent only 16 per cent of our total," Calloway said.

Last Monday, the purchase of N.Y.-based company announced a complex barter deal with Moscow aimed at doubling its bottling network in the Soviet Union. The deal is valued at \$3 billion over the next 10 years.

and Walkers snack foods. Pepsico is the world's biggest restaurant operator but still best-known among US consumers for its cola drinks.

Chairman D. Wayne Calloway said his company's focus for the new decade includes becoming "an even stronger player on a global scale."

"Although we've nearly tripled our international operating profits in the past two years, they still represent only 16 per cent of our total," Calloway said.

Last Monday, the purchase of N.Y.-based company announced a complex barter deal with Moscow aimed at doubling its bottling network in the Soviet Union. The deal is valued at \$3 billion over the next 10 years.

Short-dated KD rates up

KUWAIT, April 15, (Reuters): Short-dated rates firmed up on the Kuwaiti dinar interbank deposit market this morning. After last week's liquid market, many dealers were squaring up their positions in short dates and selling back to the Central Bank, dealers said.

Overnight, term/next, spot/next and one week were all being quoted around 8-3/4 8-3/8 pct.

India tries to boost exports, tourism earnings

By Thomas Abraham

Arab Times correspondent

NEW DELHI, April 15: India has announced a series of measures that will give the private sector a much larger role to play in the civil aviation sector as part of a major bid to increase the country's cargo and passenger capacity and boost its exports and tourism earnings.

In a reversal of the policy followed since early fifties when the country's airlines were nationalised, Civil Aviation Minister Arif Mohammed Khan said various restrictions on the operations of air taxis had been lifted, which in effect means they can compete freely with Indian Airlines and Vayudoot, the two domestic carriers.

The terms governing cargo flights and air charters have also been liberalised.

Air taxis will now be allowed to operate to all airports in the country open to scheduled operations instead of the 55 specified airports as at present. The present ceiling of 50 seats on aircrafts operated under the scheme has been lifted but a minimum seating capacity of 15 has

been prescribed to ensure that there is augmentation of capacity for genuine tourist and public passenger traffic. Approvals already given for aircraft with a lower seating capacity will, however, not be reopened.

The government has also removed the restriction that air taxis cannot operate two hours before or after the scheduled time of Indian Airlines and Vayudoot flights. Air taxis can now be operated both on a charter or non-charter basis. The present restriction that air taxi fares should not be less than those of Indian Airlines or Vayudoot on a pro-rata basis has also been abolished.

As far as air charters are concerned, the government has decided to extend the present list of eleven permitted destinations on a liberal basis. At present, air charters are allowed to operate only between the point of arrival and the point of departure within India in the domestic sector. This restriction has been abolished and the charter will be allowed to operate in the domestic sector to all the destina-

tions included in the extended list.

Khan said this would facilitate charter operations to more tourist destinations within the country. This facility would be confined only to charter passengers brought from abroad by the operator. Along with this, various conditions about filing lists of passengers in advance and substitution of passengers have also been liberalised.

The stipulation that the price of the package of the charter flight, including ground arrangement for seven days, should not be less than the published excursion fare to India has been abolished.

To ensure a minimum level of foreign exchange earnings, the minimum payment to the Indian tour operator by the foreign operator would be \$350 against \$200 per passenger as at present.

The government has extended the "open sky policy" for foreign cargo carriers permanently. It was originally valid till December, 1992. This is expected to facilitate cargo carriers to make invest-

ment decisions and undertake commitments on a long-term basis.

Khan said the government would consider favourably any proposal from foreign airlines to operate additional passenger frequencies to India if such flights are operated by passenger-cum-cargo combination aircraft on a terminator basis. The government would also favourably consider proposals from private operators and others to run air cargo operations on their own or on a consortium basis through purchased or leased freighter aircraft.

He said Air India would give preference to the augmentation of its freighter capacity in its future fleet acquisition programme.

Air India has started operating additional Boeing 747 freighter flights to Europe and the United States to clear the current backlog of cargo piled up at Indian airports. To supplement capacity into the United States, Air India will also consider possibilities of joint services with other international carriers, he added.

ment decisions and undertake commitments on a long-term basis.

Khan said the government would consider favourably any proposal from foreign airlines to operate additional passenger frequencies to India if such flights are operated by passenger-cum-cargo combination aircraft on a terminator basis. The government would also favourably consider proposals from private operators and others to run air cargo operations on their own or on a consortium basis through purchased or leased freighter aircraft.

He said Air India would give preference to the augmentation of its freighter capacity in its future fleet acquisition programme.

Air India has started operating additional Boeing 747 freighter flights to Europe and the United States to clear the current backlog of cargo piled up at Indian airports. To supplement capacity into the United States, Air India will also consider possibilities of joint services with other international carriers, he added.

Bid to join EEC

Turkey keeps hope

ANKARA, April 15, (Reuters): Three years after Turkey formally applied for full European Community (EEC) membership, Ankara is still drawing on a mixed reserve of hope and perseverance that it will eventually become a full European partner.

"After Turkey's April 14, 1987 application, the vagueness of our association relations in the 1970s was replaced by vigour and a political vision," Foreign Minister Ali Bozer told reporters yesterday.

But EEC's representative in Ankara, Jan van Rijn, said Turkey, an associate member since 1963, had "considerable ground to cover before it joined the EEC, despite great strides in modernisation and economic integration with the community."

The EEC commission last December told Ankara it ruled out membership talks with any country before the community achieved a single market union by 1992 but proposed a package of economic and social co-operation with Turkey.

The blow was only partly assuaged by the commission's stamp of mainly-Muslim but secular Turkey's "eligibility" for membership. Turkish officials said then they were expecting the commission to set a date for talks, however distant.

"Turkey now expects a dynamic package from the EEC, designed to prepare the ground for Turkey's full membership and it must be supported by financial instruments," a senior Foreign Ministry official said.

"After the unsatisfactory (December) report, a lukewarm co-operation package will deepen disappointment here," the official said.

He said the release of 600 million European currency units (\$720 million) of EEC aid, held up since 1980 when parliamentary democracy was suspended for three years after a military coup, would be an encouraging sign on the EEC's part.

Turkey's much-criticised human rights record since a 1980 military coup and three years of army rule has been a stumbling block to its entry bid and some EEC deputies also claim its Muslim identity could be a barrier.

Japan to continue drift netting

TOKYO, April 15, (UPI): An announcement by the top American tuna canners that they will use only dolphin-safe tuna did not sway Japan's tuna industry which said Friday it will continue using dolphin-threatening methods while studying alternatives.

"The US companies' decision will have little effect on the Japanese fishing industry," said Yasushi Tamaki, an official of the drift net fishing section of the Japanese overseas fishing union.

Starkist Seafood Co., Van Camp Seafood Co., makers of Chicken of the Sea, and Bumble Bee Seafood Inc. announced Thursday they would stop buying tuna from fishermen whose nets simultaneously trap and kill dolphins.

The announcement came after the tuna canners were harshly criticised by environmentalists who boycotted their products. No similar movement against the use of dolphin-killing fishing techniques exists in Japan.

Japanese fishermen are responsible for about 30 per cent of the world's swordfish and bonito catch and have been criticised by environmentalists from abroad for their use of driftnets, nearly invisible, giant nets which can kill or maim dolphins in the process of catching other fish.

"We know it is difficult to avoid catching dolphins together with tuna in drift net fishing," said Yasushi. "We began a study in the southern Pacific this year to find ways to avoid catching dolphins."

Yasushi said his industry will not be hurt by the US preference for dolphin-safe tuna because "we only export 400 to 500 tons of tuna to the United States every year."

Japanese fishermen catch more than 10,000 tons of tuna a year, according to government figures.

A spokesman at the Fisheries Agency, the government agency which oversees the industry, said he could not comment on the move by the American companies except to say that it is a "serious problem."

Britain's favourite Mum!

People bask in the warmth of her smile ... and she loves it

THERE is one simple secret to the success of the Queen Mother as she approaches her 90th birthday. All she needs is ... love.

Wherever she goes, she bewitches everyone. Enchantment ripples around her. People bask in the warmth of her smile. She leaves them happier than she found them.

But this no fairytale royal. She can't use the fashion flair and figure of a top model to earn regular appearances on magazine covers all over the globe and keep her glamour rating on the rise.

This is a chunky little lady, whose curves have long ago been glossed over by those distinctive cross-over bodices and light coats, the matching pastel hats, veils, and shoes that, with the triple strand of pearls, are her trademark.

The Queen Mother needs no props or ploys. Her genuine love of people communicates itself, spontaneously, to everyone who sees her.

And that is not just the public face of one of the world's best-loved figures. She is adored by her own family, too. Her daughters, nieces, nephews, grandchildren, great grandchildren.

Three generations of royals have found her a confident to rely on — discreet, patient, reassuring, slow to judge. And, unfailingly, loving.

The passing of years have polished the professionalism. But behind every public performance there is always the same underlying foundation stone — a genuine, loving care.

Noel Coward once said she left behind her a trail of "gibbering worshippers." He was right. And they include hardened newspapermen and women to whom she always shows the same concern and consideration.

No photographer ever fails to get his picture of her. The Queen Mother sees to that. She will wait, re-enact, wave again.

Many a new career that came close to shipwreck in the nervous excitement of a first royal assignment has been saved by her co-operation.

She always runs late. But it is not the lateness of indifference but of irresistible interest.

She always slows her car to take an unexpected bouquet through the window. She will often make an unexpected stop to climb down from her limousine to shake unscheduled hands, especially if they are very old or very young.

She is too modest ever to have agreed with Coward's extravagant description of her impact on people. But she is, nevertheless, aware of the chemistry between herself and strangers.

She has said: "I must admit that sometimes I feel something flow out of me. It makes me feel very tired for a moment. Then I seem to get something back from the people — sympathy, goodwill, I do not know exactly what — and I feel strength again. In fact recharged. It is an exchange."

But if she had learned the tricks of the trade — like balancing her weight evenly between both feet to enable her to stand for hours, like plucking one flower from a bouquet before passing the rest to an attendant — the warmth, the desire to please is always with her.

Lady Elizabeth Angela Marguerite Bowes-Lyon was born with the century, on August 4, 1900. She was the eighth of nine children of the titled but little-known Scottish family, the Strathmores.

Unaware that his baby was destined for the history books, her father, Lord Glamis, soon to be the 14th Earl of Strathmore,



The pretty seven-year-old — little knowing that her destiny lay on the throne of empire.



Then, loving portrait painted of Britain's most revered royal — the Queen Mother.



Now Britain's favourite Mum. Her smile enchanted everyone she ever met.

forgot to register her birth. He was fined 7s 6d (37 p) for failing to do so within 42 days allowed.

He was busy — shooting grouse in Scotland.

And for some reason, now forgotten, he eventually registered her birth as having been at the family's southern home, St Paul's Walden in Hertfordshire, when it was actually in London.

The Queen Mother had a happy, carefree but sensible childhood, divided between St Paul's and the Strathmore's home, Glamis Castle.

Her mother, Lady Strathmore, was a warm, resourceful and energetic woman whose homes rang with piano music and laughter.

Amateur dramatics were much favoured in the family which had been the last in Scotland to keep a private jester. Young Elizabeth and beloved younger brother David loved to dress up in the pink and yellow satin-striped jester suit.

Lady Elizabeth was only five when she met her destiny — at a children's party given by the Countess of Leicester in Mayfair, London.

Her warm little heart went out to the boy five years her senior who looked so shy and so unhappy that she crossed the room to give him the crystallised cherries from her cake to cheer him up.

She had no idea Bertie was the grandson of the king. Now could she know that he was her future husband. But it was prophetic for their future relationship. She would always be the sunshine in his life.

The Queen Mother's teen-age years coincided with World War One. Glamis was turned into a convalescent home and the compassionate young girl became the Scottish Florence Nightingale. She wrote letters, played cards, sang and played the piano for the wounded men.

After the war she returned to London as a debutante and soon had string of admirers. But one beau nursed her dream secretly.

It was 1923 before he proposed and she agreed to become the wife of the Duke of York. There was a rumour that he had had to ask her three times.

She denied that vigorously. "Do you think I am the sort of



Family at home. Queen Elizabeth takes tea with husband Bertie and the two Princesses, Elizabeth and Margaret.

person Bertie would have to ask twice?" she said.

It was a rhetorical question. She was far too compassionate to play the coquette, to force a repeat ordeal on her shy, stuttering, admirer.

It was to be real love match between the second son who never expected to reign and the woman who had never wanted to be a queen. Yet, when it came, no one could have helped him more.

Her Bertie had had a very difficult childhood. His father had treated the children with much the same mixture of discipline and affection as his gun dogs. His mother was unaware of the cruelty of two nannies, eventually sacked from the nursery.

But King George V, too, soon fell under the spell of his sunny daughter-in-law who quickly became the darling of her new

family.

The king was as much of a stickler for punctuality as she was constitutionally unable to be on time. In anyone else, it would have driven him to distraction. In her, he found it charming.

The young bride quickly blossomed into the Princess Diana of her day. Even without television, she became a superstar.

Fashion writers chronicled every outfit as she abandoned the clinging, sophisticated clothes she favoured for the fluffy feminine look — all fox fur and feathers — which her husband preferred.

The newly-weds began married life at White Lodge, Richmond, but quickly moved to 145 Piccadilly, from which they would slip out, in secret, to go to the cinema at Marble Arch and walk, unrecognised, home again.

The Duchess used to tell people: "We are terribly dull." Dull

they were not. But they were years of unspectacular happiness of evenings spent contentedly together by the fire, of deep joy in the birth and growth of two beautiful daughters.

Then came the blow that stunned the nation and altered forever the tranquil lives of the Yorks. King Edward VIII — Bertie's older brother David — stepped down from the throne to marry the woman he loved.

The abdication placed a triple burden on the new Queen. For her husband lacked the natural, easy, extrovert charm of his older brother. For him, duty was a painful and determined application of effort to overcome his diffidence and master his speech defect.

Besides supporting him, the new Queen now had to bring up her daughters to be future Queens and second-in-line. And she was also only too aware that



A great outdoor lady and lover of sport — Lady Elizabeth with a Highland haul.

the abdication had rocked the monarchy to its very foundations.



Mother and child — the two Elizabeths.



Queen Elizabeth inspects blitzed wartime ruins with King George VI. Churchill christened her 'Britain's secret weapon.'

Her husband needed her help, not just to be a good king but an exceptionally good one for the institution to survive.

They made a great team. It is no exaggeration to say that together they saved the monarchy and historians will allocate the lion's share of the credit to the Queen Mother.

Withing two years, they were heads of a country at war. And if six years of fighting finally silenced the last lingering calls for the abolition of the monarchy, they also took a terrible toll of the king and the queen.

Hitler called the Queen Mother "the most dangerous woman in Europe." Churchill said she was "our secret weapon."

But to those close to her, she was a tireless heroine of those cold, hungry days when she rejected refuge in Canada for herself and her daughters and stayed on to face the danger of bombing and kidnapping and the relentless activity of palace life.

In her Buckingham Palace dining room, only a single electric bar fire was turned on in the dead of winter, although most of the windows had been blown out. Food rationing was strictly adhered to.

Visitors, like American first lady Eleanor Roosevelt, were horrified by the conditions. They found the food "like sawdust" and the King and Queen with colds.

The Queen Mother learned to use a rifle. She spent a lot of time visiting and cheering up her suffering subjects.

And she carried another terrible burden. Until the war ended, she was the only woman in the country who knew the truth about the awful casualty figures.

Such was her impact as Queen that it is hard to recall that she reigned for only 15 years before lung cancer took her beloved Bertie. And the end of that love match nearly killed her.

When she was congratulated on how well she was bearing up, she confessed: "Not when I am alone." She took refuge at Birkhall, near Balmoral. For a time, it looked as if she might never return to public life.

She wore black. She invited no-one to stay and rarely went out. Her staff became increasingly concerned about her.

Then Winston Churchill took a hand. He drove to Scotland to talk to her. What was said was never revealed. He took the secret to the grave with him. But she packed up and returned to London almost at once.

The Queen Mother has carried a legacy of that tragedy with her through the years. She could never forgive Wallis Simpson, the American divorcee for whom her brother-in-law gave up his throne.

She was convinced that the burden of office for which he was unprepared and ill-suited had shortened her husband's life.

Yet her unquenchable compassion came to the fore at the Duke of Windsor's funeral. She stood near the Duchess who privately called "the woman who killed my husband" only because the Queen asked her to.

But when she saw the Duchess looking so frail and lost and confused, unable to work out why the Duke was not there with her, it was the Queen Mother who was moved to take care of her.

Over the years, the Queen Mother was to build up a good life for herself. She loves champagne and witty company. She adores her grandchildren and shares with her daughter a passion for horse racing.

And she works like a beaver. She was still clocking up more than 100 engagements a year, including 12- and 13-hour days on tours, well into her eighties.

Years ago, there was a suggestion that she might be given an appointment as a governor-general. The Queen would not hear of it. "I'm afraid we just could not possibly spare her," she said.

Fashion

The Salazar look stands out on Lisbon streets

LISBON, (Reuters): Portugal exports miles of fabric but only one label carries any weight abroad.

The name is Ana Salazar and her offbeat fashion has revolutionised style in a country better known for dowdiness than innovative dress sense.

But while her eccentric creations are gaining recognition in Paris and Milan, the clientele is still small in her native Portugal. Western Europe's poorest country.

"There is little fashion sense in Portugal," laments 48-year-old Salazar, adjusting her 1930's style spectacles and copper-tinted hair. "Most women here, especially those who can afford my clothes, are very conservative."

She is different. Amid the safe uniforms of blazers and matronly skirts on Lisbon streets, the Salazar look jumps out — a blend of the modern and the nostalgic.

Salazar — in a timeless black wool dress, diaphanous scarf and large geometric rings — is a walking advertisement for her sophisticated vision.

This lone ranger of Lisbon fashion epitomises a new breed of Portuguese professionals trying to catch name abroad and shake off the country's provincial reputation.

And while introducing fresh style to a conservative public may have its frustrations, it also yields pay-offs.

Since launching her own line in 1979, Salazar has won international accolades as Portugal's leading designer.

Two boutiques in Lisbon, one in Paris and outlets in New York, Milan and Tokyo generate annual sales of 200 million escudos (\$1.3 million). She hopes to double that over the next couple of years.

Salazar is launching a perfume to be sold abroad — a first for a Portuguese designer — and a line of towels and sheets and possibly spectacles are next.

Salazar, who draws inspiration from past decades and Paris street fashion, inherited an eye for aesthetics from her father Oskar Pinto Lobo, a leading Portuguese painter-architect.

As a young girl her passion was drawing outfits for cut-off dolls and after a spell of abstract painting she decided to devote herself to her first love, clothes design.

In 1972 she opened a boutique selling imported British fashion and after the 1974 leftist revolution she created some of Portugal's first fashion shows and eventually her own line.

Bio-intensive farming may help Africa feed itself

KITALE, Kenya. (Reuters): The students of Manor House Agricultural Centre hope their humble response to Africa's chronic food shortages may succeed where mechanisation and heavy use of artificial fertiliser and pesticide have failed.

The students of this private agricultural college in western Kenya are disciples of "bio-intensive" farming.

This uses muck, manpower, scientific know-how and a dash of home chemistry to get the best out of traditional farming techniques.

Working only with hoes and forks, the students have prodded the soil into producing three times as many potatoes and four times as much lettuce as it did a few years ago.

All this has been achieved without irrigation or factory-made fertilisers and pesticides.

The first secret of success at Manor House is to put more care than usual into soil preparation and planting.

The soil in the vegetable beds is loosened to a depth of two feet (60 cm) and seedlings are planted closer together than usual. Both these measures conserve water.

Compost and other organic fertilisers are heavily used to revitalise the soil, but imported chemical preparations are shunned.

Experimental farms similar to Kenya's

Manor House are springing up in Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana and US Peace Corps volunteers are helping farmers learn bio-intensive farming techniques in Togo and Benin.

"This is a new kind of agricultural research institution in Africa," said Celestus Juma, executive director of the African Centre for Technical Studies (ACTS).

"It may offer a lot more potential than the traditional systems we've had," he told Reuters in Nairobi.

The goal of Manor House is to make millions of small-scale farmers in Kenya prosper despite an acute shortage of good agricultural land, soil exhaustion and frequent drought.

"The word is getting out," said Polly Noyce, a private US sponsor and board member of Manor House.

The establishment, housed in a former private school in the rolling highlands of western Kenya, had 600 applications for the 30 posts it offered last year to farmers with a high school certificate and financial backing from their home community.

Manor House hopes that communities sponsoring individuals for the two-year course will be keen to know what their nominees have learned and so knowledge of bio-intensive farming techniques will spread quickly.

Promoters of bio-intensive farming in

the United States say it can increase yields by up to 31 times using only one quarter of the water using by the average American farmer.

But the techniques can be used anywhere, providing sufficient manual labour is available.

Tiny suburban backyards with a good water supply can provide a family's food.

But the water-conserving nature of bio-intensive farming also makes it suitable for Africa's vast arid areas, its promoters say.

Noyce believes the extraordinary productivity of bio-intensive farming is the key to Kenya's future.

"Farms have to become more productive and improve nutrition and rural employment," she said.

Kenya's 4.2 per cent annual population growth rate is among the highest in the world and the government admits that it cannot create jobs fast enough to meet the flood of young people coming onto the urban labour market.

In addition to boosting productivity, Manor House aims to make farming cheaper and more friendly to the environment.

It uses compost and special plants to fix nutrients in the soil and advocates simple home-made formulae for insect and disease control instead of conventional pesticides.

For instance, a compound of Mexican marigold petals, soap, and water can be used to control caterpillars and flies.

Another solution is to plant insect-repelling herbs and flowers alongside the food crop. Pungent dill weeds sown between rows of cabbage offer one effective combination.

Noyce does not believe that bio-intensive methods can replace mechanisation on large-scale farms, although some techniques such as deeper ploughing could be profitably adopted.

But she is adamant that bio-intensive farming offers the best hope of growing more food on small manually-worked plots.

"I would like to see every family having a garden," she said. "They could grow enough food for family nutrition and a surplus for sale."

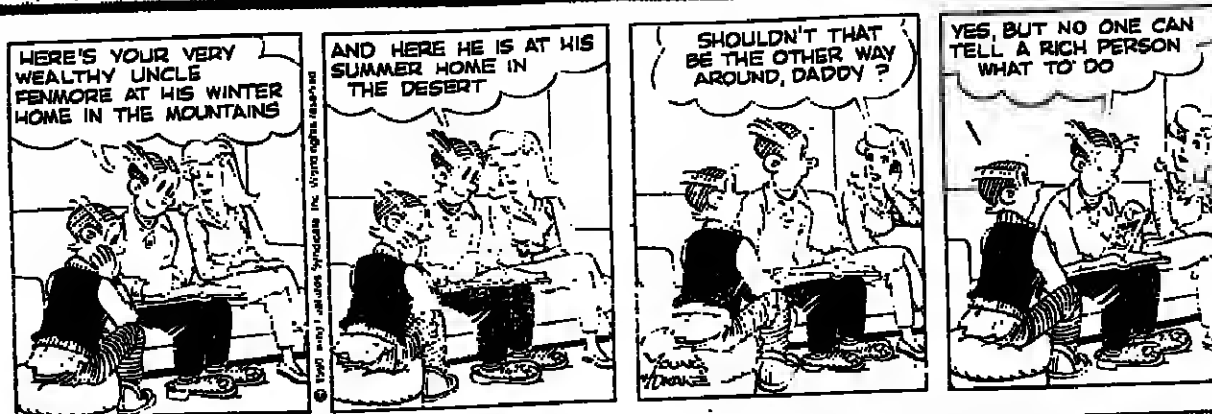
Noyce said intensively-cultivated family plots could help low income groups become "less dependent on market prices and company bosses."

Manor House wants to attract more people back to the land.

Noyce hopes the technology associated with bio-intensive farming will give a new prestige to agriculture and that the labour-intensive techniques will attract unemployed people back to rural areas which once appeared to have no room for them to make a decent living.

LEISURE

BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake



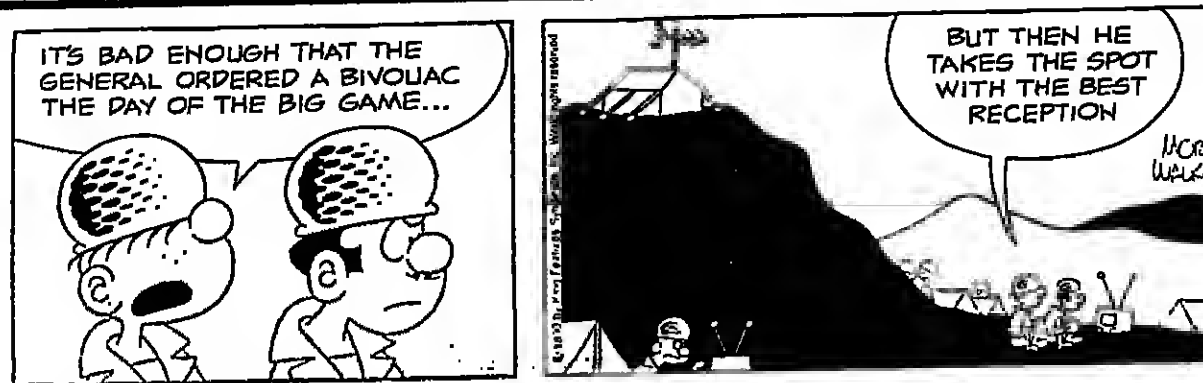
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE — By Dik Browne



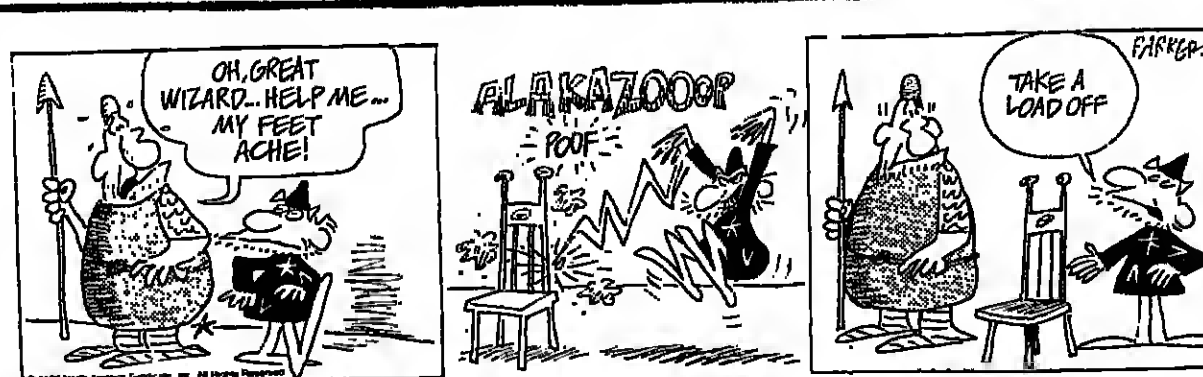
AGATHA CRUMM — By Bill Hoest



BEETLE BAILEY — By Mort Walker



THE WIZARD OF ID — By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



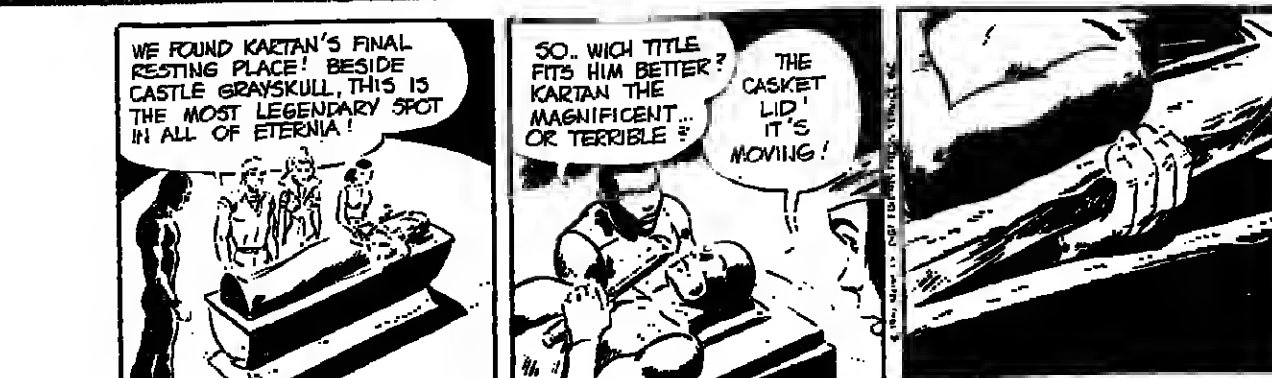
ANDY CAPP



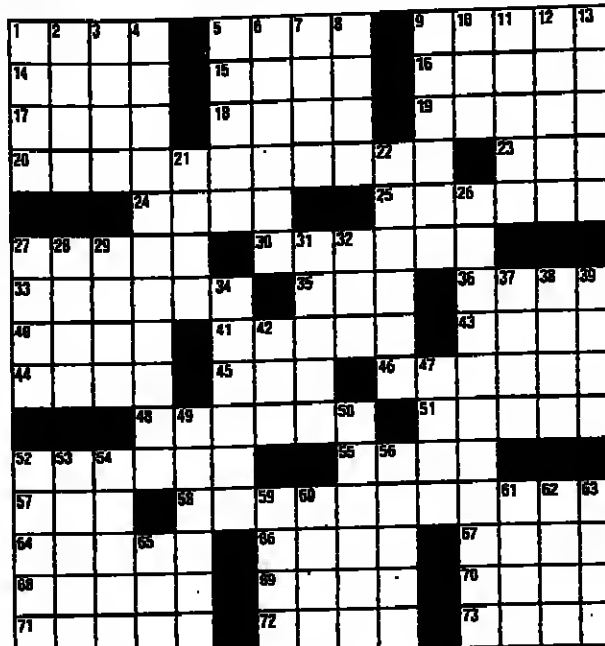
B.C. — By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN — By G. Fortson & J. Stahl



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Lodge
5 Sidekicks
9 Impetuous
14 Rumble
15 Cosmetic additive
16 Elf
17 Scoop
18 Swing around
19 Sherpa land
20 Boost
23 Yodeler's place
24 One-horse carriage
25 Aristocrats
27 Bluish-gray
30 Pixy
33 Desired
35 — crow: recant
36 Apparent planetary paths
40 Before bellum
41 Public relations' concern
43 Greenish-blue
44 Draw nigh
45 Neither's partner
46 Masquerade wear
48 Interstice
51 Clvet's relative
52 Get-up-and-go
55 Matgrass
57 Everything
58 Champion
64 Climbing vine
65 Weird
67 Computer toddler
68 Go for a ride
69 Hoosier humorist and family
70 A small amount
71 Tolerate
72 Base on balls
73 Kennel sound

DOWN

1 Crosspatch
2 Knowledge
3 Part of the eye
4 Goes scot-free
5 Turkish title
6 Kirsty of "Cheers" et al.
7 Gaudy
8 Cassandra
9 Witticism
10 Cry over spilled milk
11 Dismay
12 Oil source
13 Befriends
21 Quaker's pronoun
22 Part of USA
26 "— eight to the bar"
27 Adult cygnet
28 Party —
29 Fox terrier of films
31 Hawaiian Harbor
32 Joplin opus
34 Moolah
37 Restraint
38 Sugar source
39 Position in a sequence
42 Barnyard sound
47 Bugbear
49 Token of esteem
50 Kostelanetz and Previn
52 Conceals
53 Adam Bede's creator
54 Part of Montana's motto
56 Immeasurable depth
59 Harvest
60 Helen of Troy's mother
61 Counterweight
62 And others: Abbr.
63 Freeway section
65 — sequitur

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

PIACT PAY RICE
ALILI ADEIN ADANO
TORIN LOMA CANTO
HUCKLEBERRY TEN
LAITENCY GARE
NIEWEST EMIL
ERA SIEDAN ARDSE
OSTEO ADO GLUEY
STERIE MARINE PIRE
ROSA INDEED
HEMS GAZETTE
EME POMIGRANITE
ROLLEO ABRI TLED
ATOLL TRET ARAG
TIENSIE ATIE LYRIE

GOREN BRIDGE

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ Void ♥ J1098 ♦ A4 ♣ AKQJ652

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 2 ♦ 3 ♠

? What do you bid now?

A.—Some sophisticated agreements might reveal exactly what you want to know about partner's hand, but that is beyond ordinary mortals. We would gamble on the hope that partner has the ace or king of hearts and a running diamond suit, and jump to six clubs.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ 10632 ♥ 85 ♦ A109762 ♣ 9

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♦ Pass
1 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—It is usually wrong not to support partner's major when you have four-card support. Here, your hand is worth some 8-9 dummy points, so it surely merits a raise to two spades.

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ KJ8 ♥ 10863 ♦ A5 ♣ Q1074

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East
Pass Pass 1 ♥ Pass
?

What do you bid now?

A.—You have a pretty good hand in support of hearts. The way to show it is to jump to three hearts. By a

passed hand that is not forcing, regardless of your methods. It is, however, highly invitational.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ K10 ♥ 10863 ♦ 105 ♣ AQJ74

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East
Pass Pass 1 ♥ Pass
?

What action do you take?

A.—You certainly want to play in game, but slam is possible if partner has the right cards. The way to find out is to start with a jump shift of three clubs. This passed-hand jump guarantees a fit for partner's suit and is forcing.

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ J6 ♥ 95 ♦ K9763 ♣ AK105

As dealer, what action do you take?

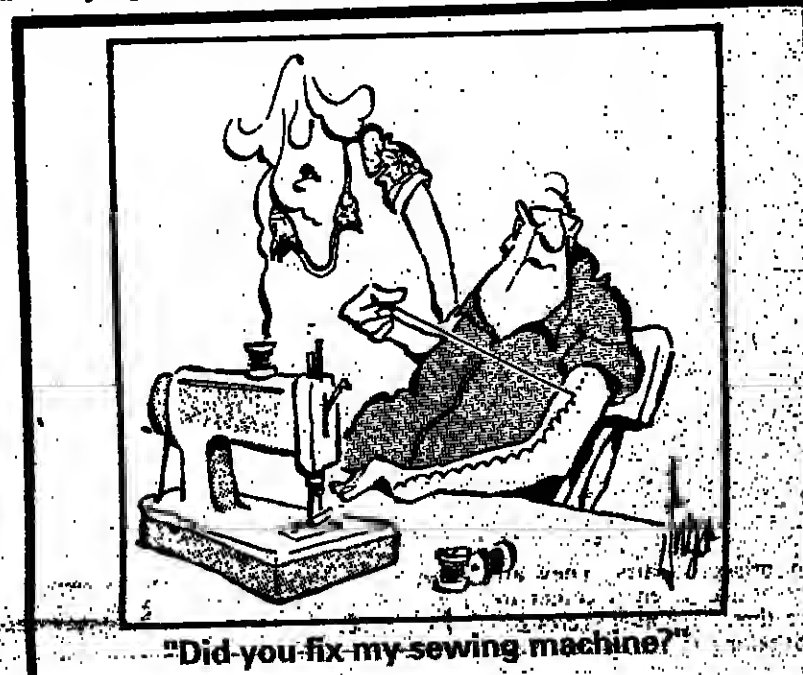
A.—It would take a minor miracle to make game with this hand if partner does not have an opening bid. Rather than open and allow the opponents to enter cheaply with a major, pass and wait to see whether or not partner can act.

Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ K9763 ♥ AK105 ♦ 95 ♣ J6

As dealer, what action do you take?

A.—This time you have the major suits, which allows you a huge tactical advantage—you can compete for a partial without increasing the level. In addition, you have an easy rebid and 2 1/2 defensive tricks. Open one spade.



YOUR STARS



Do not allow some trivial matter to get out of proportion. You will fire more easily and should do what has to be done urgently first. Avoid becoming involved in what does not really concern you. Be considerate.



There will be a certain reluctance to get on with things. You will have to use all your willpower if you want to overcome it, but if you do want you will succeed. Do not say what you do not mean. Be magnanimous.



There will be some setbacks but do not allow yourself to become discouraged by them. Simply persevere with what you are doing. However, do be prepared to change course in the light of events. Be attentive.



If you rely too much on others you will have reason to be disappointed. And there is no reason why you should lose faith in yourself. You are more liable to make mistakes so be on the lookout for them. Be firm.



Beware of becoming distracted and do not involve yourself in what is none of your business. Do not do anything you do not think is right. Do not be so keen to blame others for what may well be your own fault. Be perspicacious.



Others will not be altogether well inclined towards you. However, perhaps you were expecting too much. And remember that to get you must also be prepared to give something in return. Be sensible.



You should not allow work to encroach upon your leisure time. However, do work intensively without allowing your attention to wander. Make sure you do not eat too many sweet or spicy things. Be polite.



You should be a little more self-critical and a little less critical of others. Your lucky numbers are 3 and 22. Do not ask for more than you would be prepared to give in similar circumstances. A friend will appreciate your doing him a favour. Be fair.



You will be able to make good progress with a personal project only if you persevere. You would do well to work more intensively, this allowing you more time for leisure pursuits. Take a little better care of your health. Be reliable.



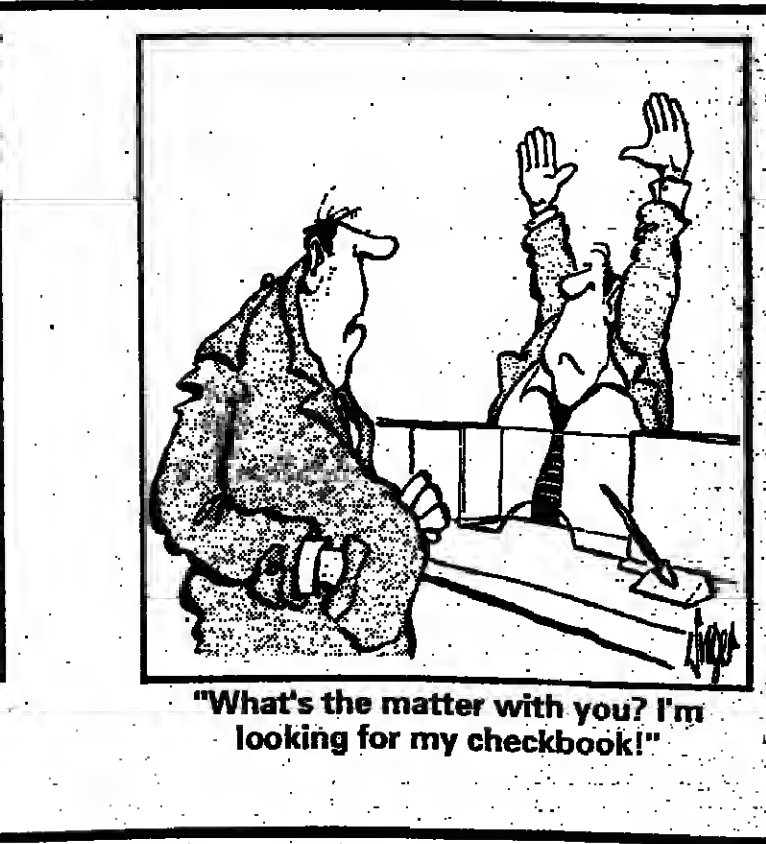
You will have a good idea but it will not always be immediately applicable. You should not expect to get your way in all things — if you do you will not. Pay a little more attention to detail but do not get caught up in it. Be tolerant.



You will get some support from your friends and you should show how grateful you are. If you do not beware you could well be overthrown by events. Make sure you get enough rest and sufficient exercise too. Be respectful.



If you expect more than you deserve you will be disappointed. Have another think before posting a letter. Make sure you do not do anything you think is wrong and have the courage of your convictions. Be resourceful.



Book reviews

'The Cloning' — a wonderful romp

The Cloning of Joanna May, by Fay Weldon (Viking, 265 pp., \$18.95)

The tongue is a little less saucy, the themes a bit more global but the wit is as Rabelaisian as usual as Fay Weldon uses the concept of genetic engineering to continue her irreverent but perceptive examination of the state of relations between the sexes.

In "The Cloning of Joanna May," Carl May, British nuclear industrialist, land developer and one of the more despicable villains in recent fiction, has refused to allow his wife, Joanna, to have children. Nevertheless, he and a mad scientist colleague — Joanna's gynaecologist — manage to secretly steal one of her eggs and clone four duplicate Joannas just 30 years younger than the heroine.

ger than the heroine.

Skilfully using the best conventions of the 19th century melodrama, Weldon draws the now divorced, 60-year-old Joanna and her four clones — Jane, Gina, Julie and Alice — together as mother-daughter but also, in good feminist tradition, as sisters all. Both the possibilities and the pitfalls of a world where feminism has made a difference but men are still in control are looked at with Weldon's irreverent but acute eye.

"The Cloning of Joanna May" is a wonderful romp through the confusions of today's sexual landscape. Readers will enjoy it yet, with second thought, also find it sobering.

Chung Kuo, Book 1: The Middle Kingdom, by David Wingrove

Chung Kuo, Book 1: The Middle Kingdom, by David Wingrove (Delacorte, 392 pp., \$19.95)

You know there's something strange about the future David Wingrove has created when a woman attended by what should be the best doctors available dies in childbirth.

The year is 2190, and the entire planet Earth is *Chung Kuo*, Chinese for Middle Kingdom, what 20th century Westerners know as China. The woman's husband is one of the rulers of the seven huge, multilevel cities that hold just about all of humanity, and though technology has produced space colonies and androids, queens die in childbirth.

"Chung Kuo" is both an engrossing book and a future society with almost

limitless depths. Book one sets the stage for six more volumes in the series.

The drama is provided by warfare between a group called Dispensians, who favour change and want to visit distant stars, and the seven men, who expect their progeny to rule a virtually unchanged planet for the next thousand years or so.

In some ways, this is like those wonderful Russian novels with their myriad of characters. Like those works, "Chung Kuo" provides a primer on the cast. Though Wingrove takes his time setting up the plots and people he needs to carry him through the series, much of "Chung Kuo" is edge-of-the-seat action.

A downside is the fighting described

in a wealth of detail, more than some readers might appreciate. Some also might be uncomfortable with the sexual violence aimed at women and perpetrated by boys on each other.

There is also only one female in this book who has a role other than as some man's wife, sister, sweetheart or daughter. The exception is a cameo appearance by the traditional madam with the heart of gold. In an afterword, Wingrove hints that at least a couple of the women might later become more important. But if book one is any evidence, women in "Chung Kuo" will wield no power, vastly different from their role in imperial China.

Swing Legacy, by Chip Deffaa

Swing Legacy, by Chip Deffaa (Scarecrow press, 379 pp., \$39.50)

Chip Deffaa, jazz writer for the New York Post, loves the swing tradition, which has a rich history and an uncertain future, though Deffaa has pinned down and celebrates the younger players.

He talks with veterans of the big bands, including Glenn Miller sideman Moe Purtill and Dorsey Brothers trumpeter Lee Castle, and neo-swing whiz kid.

The most valuable portion of the book, and that filled with the most insight, is a string of essays exploring the Count Basie band and Duke Ellington orchestra — and the very different ways in which they survive in a world of ghost bands.

With a name like

By Vernon Scott

HOLLYWOOD (UPI): With a name like Bill Smitrovich, an actor has to be good.

Names like Smitrovich or Smuckers tend to make people hide their grins.

Maybe that's why Issur Danilovich changed his name to Kirk Douglas, or Malden Sekulovich adopted the name Karl Malden.

Apparently Smitrovich is made of sterner stuff. He kept his name, which now adorns the credits of the movie *Crazy People* starring Dudley Moore, as well as the TV series *Life Goes On* in the role of Drew Thatcher.

Smitrovich definitely is not getting by on his catchy name or because he is a Tom Selleck clone. So you know he's a good and capable actor who understudied 26 roles in the New York production of Arthur Miller's play *The American Clock*.

It is common for an actor to understudy one or two roles then sit around in a dressing room praying one of his fellow cast members to be stricken with cholera just before the curtain rises.

But 26? How starved must an actor get before learning every word and bit of business for an entire cast? Including one black character? And what if everyone was felled by the flu? Would Smitrovich have been called upon to put on a one-man show? Undaunted with his death-wish to become an actor, Smitrovich accepted the challenge and encamped himself in the dressing room.

"It was my first professional credit and I would have done anything," he said. I'd have understudied 56 roles if necessary.

I had the advantage of sitting in the audience watching rehearsals, so I knew the flow of the story and the performances. There weren't 26 actors to begin with. All the actors played several parts, which meant if one of them got sick, then I might have to play three or four parts the understudy.

"As it happened, several days after opening night the lead got sick and I filled in for two or three performances. It was the highest high of my life."

Happily, the lead actor did not suffer cholera and Smitrovich returned to waiting for another act of divine intervention.

Provided, of course, later in the run another actor, this one 20 years older, fell ill and Smitrovich jumped into the breach once again.

"I was definitely prepared to play any role, no matter how elderly," he said. "I was even prepared to play the black role, but as a talented minority, I had the talent to pull it off, but today I couldn't do it."

In *Crazy People* Smitrovich plays a single character, a guy who lives a very crazy person in a laughing academy.

"Bruce is a conglomerate of a lot of people I knew when I worked in a veteran's hospital and with mentally and emotionally damaged children," he said.

"But this movie isn't an introspection into mental health. I know quite a bit about mental health. I've been involved with that problem over the years. This picture doesn't make fun of such people. I take it all very personally."

"The film walks the line and we hope no one will take offense. After all, I work with Chris Burke in *Life Goes On* every week. Chris is retarded and we are very good friends. He's a wonderful young man."

"This movie is an allegory, a fantasy about an advertising executive (Moore) who tells the truth about his clients' products, so naturally everyone thinks he's crazy."

When they put him in the sanitarium the residents help him write hilariously truthful ads, which are a great success. It's a lot of fun.

The inmates are an interesting ensemble of guys with various quirks and disorders. They could be compared to the group in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* but I don't like that because Cuckoo's Nest was dark and introspective. This is a luxury sanitarium for well-to-do eccentrics.

"We function as sort of a joke-telling unit that comes up with the incredibly funny ad campaigns."

There were some not-so-funny things about *Crazy People*, including the fact that John Malkovich starred as the avid ad man for three weeks before he was replaced by Dudley Moore, and Tony Bill took over as a director from Mitch Markowitz.

When it comes to love — three is definitely a crowd

Agonies of being the other woman

FORGET the image of a pampered blonde lounging on a heap of satin cushions — the modern mistress is likely to be an independent career woman who gets more pain than pleasure from her affair.

That's the verdict of author Caroline Buchanan — and she should know. For six years she was the "other woman" in a fragile love triangle that shattered when she gave birth to her married lover's daughter.

He had promised to be with Caroline at the hospital to see his baby ... but he never appeared. It was the final blow to Caroline's battered emotions and the end of the relationship.

Three years on, Caroline can laugh at the way she used to turn down jobs so she could wait by the telephone for her lover to call. And she has slowly regained enough confidence to write a book which warns other women about the pitfalls of the "eternal triangle."

Caught In The Act includes interviews with wives, mistresses and husbands to give all sides of the infidelity story. Caroline talked to nearly 200 people during her research into what makes and breaks affairs. They all agreed that when it comes to love, three is definitely a crowd.

Speaking in the sunny West London flat she shares with daughter Francesca, attractive 36-year-old Caroline told me: "There are no benefits at all from being a mistress. It's a completely miserable existence."

"You never get a chance to share weekends, birthdays, holidays or Christmas with your lover because his family always has the prior claim on his time. There's no real happiness when even the wonderful moments are on time borrowed from another woman."

"Getting involved with a married man was against all my principles but I fell madly in love and suddenly found myself swept away by the sheer romance of the affair. The only reason I carried on was because I thought there'd be a happy ending."

"I really believed he was going to leave his wife for me. He certainly talked about it often enough. Even Francesca was a planned baby. We had worked out exactly how we were going to spend our future together as a family."

But Caroline learned the hard way that there is often a yawning void between the words and the deeds of a philandering man. The hurt still showed in her face as she told me: "He promised we'd be living together soon and he suggested I should have the baby before we moved into the same house."

"Looking back, I must have been crazy to take his word. I had my doubts, of course, but I desperately wanted a baby. I remember telling him, 'Don't say these things unless you really mean them because you know how much I want children. This isn't a game to me.'"

"I think to him it was all a romantic fantasy but to me it was very real. I used to wonder why he hadn't left me during the pregnancy, instead of waiting until Francesca was born. Now I realise he was still living out a make-believe version of 'happy families' until the moment she appeared."



That infernal triangle — husband (Michael Douglas), wife Anne Archer and lover (Glenn Close) from "Fatal Attraction".

Being a mistress is likely to bring more pain than pleasure, says Caroline Buchanan. Her traumatic relationship ended in unhappiness. She tells Francesca Hubbard about the pitfalls of falling for a married man

"After that, he had to accept reality — and that's when he panicked. He left because he couldn't cope with the responsibilities."

Many of the men Caroline interviewed for her book admitted they were afraid of commitment to one woman. "Philanderers often have affairs because they can't give themselves totally to one person," she said.

"Having two — or sometimes more — women means they always have an excuse to withdraw their emotions if there's a danger of too much intimacy. It's sad really, because these men crave a close relationship, yet are terrified of forming one."

"Flirting from woman to woman is a way to keep intimacy at bay while giving the impression that they're warm, loving men. Often, quite the reverse is true and they're secretly scared stiff of their own emotions."

Caroline — a busy freelance journalist — has gone through two years of intensive psychotherapy to help her recover from the trauma of her affair. She recommends expert counselling as the best way for wives, mistresses or husbands to understand what drew them into an infernal triangle.

Caught In The Act reveals that infidelity can usually be traced back to childhood influences. Philanderers often follow the example of a womanising father. Mistresses copy mothers who also had an affair — or look for replacement father-figures in



Wife and Mistress TV series *Coronation Street*'s Deirdre Barlow (Ann Kirkbride) confronts Wendy Crozier (Roberta Kerr)

their choice of married men.

Even wives, seen as the innocent victims of most affairs, can have a subconscious urge to

ignore their husband's infidelity — if they watched their mothers do the same with their fathers.

Caroline said: "There's no

doubt about it, therapy has helped me to understand my motives for carrying on an affair for six long years. My own father

Tell-tale signs

Caroline has identified several tell-tale signs that could mean a husband, or wife, is having an affair. Suspicions can be checked against the following habits:

- For her, watch out if:
 - He always makes sure he's the first one down for the post in the morning.
 - He suddenly starts buying himself lots of jazzy new underwear.
 - He takes a new interest in his appearance and launches into exotic ranges of aftershave and skin-care lotion.
 - He develops new tastes in music or food, or new opinions on long-held beliefs.
 - His sexual behaviour changes dramatically. Either he goes off the idea altogether or he becomes

more enthusiastic. Or fluctuates between the two:

- He reminds you of a film you supposedly saw together — and you don't know what he's talking about.
- For him, watch out if:
 - She loses half a stone in weight, gets her first haircut in years and starts experimenting with make-up.
 - Goes shopping for hours — and returns with nothing except a pair of tights.
 - Her girlfriend/sister/mother starts to have emotional crises and she has to rush round to help.
 - She starts going to the gym at the same time every week but her cellulite keeps getting worse.
 - She buys a new dress and, for the first time in years, doesn't ask your opinion.

CHICAGO. (Reuters): New chemical processes may help save millions of old books for posterity by neutralising the acid time bombs in the paper on which they are printed.

Small scale processes have been successful, but libraries and book preservers are anxiously awaiting a large-scale project to demonstrate the feasibility — and affordability — of mass de-acidification of books.

De-acidification is the latest tactic in the struggle to preserve books and other materials which are the victims of acid deterioration, a process which eventually

turns the pages so brittle that they crumble at the touch.

"People started to realise there was a problem some 50 years ago ... a book will deteriorate in as little as 50 years. Seldom will they last much more than a hundred," said Richard Miller, de-acidification project director for Akzo Chemicals.

Before 1850 books were printed on durable paper made from rag-derived linen, Miller said.

But later wood pulp was used as an economical alternative.

The aluminium sulphate used to break down the cellulose in the wood pulp eventually breaks down into a caustic acid in the paper and as a result most books printed after 1850 carry the seeds of their own destruction.

Miller estimates that one million rotting books in research libraries around the world can be preserved for future use by

chemical treatment.

Research has yielded several chemical processes for stabilising the acid in books which could extend their shelf life for hundreds of years. But the challenge has been to adapt the technology of treating a book page by page at a cost of up to \$1,000 a book to treating hundreds of volumes at a time for less than \$10 each.

In a research project co-ordinated by the US Library of Con-

gress, Akzo developed a mass de-acidification process using diethyl zinc (dez) gas, Miller said.

Books are loaded into a chamber and treated with the gas under high pressure so that it permeates the pages even with the books closed and stacked on shelves.

The problem Akzo has had to overcome is that dez is very volatile and can ignite when it comes into contact with oxygen.

Jim Hieserman, vice president of marketing for Chicago-based Lithium Corp, said his company is introducing a process which de-acidifies and strengthens the paper.

This should allow the recovery of some volumes that are too brittle to be handled, he said.

Another process, named Wei To after the ancient Chinese god who protects books, uses an organic magnesium carbonate

suspended in a gaseous solution of two types of freon and methanol.

In a process marketed by Wei To Associates of Matteson, Illinois, books are dried in a vacuum chamber, saturated with the liquid gas for an hour and then dried overnight.

The National Library of Canada has used the Wei To process since 1981, but observers say the project does not treat enough volumes at a time to justify a large programme.

The Library of Congress will seek bids next year for a long-term de-acidification project.

Chemicals may give new life to books

Millwall relegated, Liverpool draw

Villa close gap at top

LONDON, April 15. (Reuters): Aston Villa closed the gap on Liverpool at the top of the English Soccer League to one point with a win over Chelsea yesterday while the leaders were held to a draw at home by Nottingham Forest.

Liverpool, knocked out of the FA Cup semifinals last weekend, lost a two-goal half-time lead as Forest, defeated in six of their last seven games, rallied with two goals in eight minutes in the second half.

Gordon Cowans scored in the 19th minute to give Villa a 1-0 home win which ended Chelsea's 17-match unbeaten run and moved his side on to 65 points, one behind Liverpool who have a game in hand.

Arsenal, whose chances of retaining their title all but vanished with Wednesday's 1-0 home defeat by Villa, drew 1-1 at FA Cup finalists Crystal Palace to stay fourth, 12 points behind Liverpool with five games remaining.

Third-place Everton came back from two goals down to draw 2-2 at Luton and remain one point ahead of Arsenal.

Luton, third from bottom of Division One, slide further into relegation trouble as the sides directly above them — Manchester United and Manchester City — both won to increase the gap to seven points.

Bottom club Millwall were relegated when they lost 2-0 at Derby.

Liverpool fans released 95 red balloons at half-time to mark today's first anniversary of the Hillsborough disaster in which 35 fans died at the start of their FA Cup semifinal against Nottingham Forest.

The League leaders had set off



Arsenal's Steve Bould (right) struggles for the ball with an unidentified Palace player. (Reuters wirephoto)

at a blistering pace in the first half and rocked Forest with two goals in three minutes as they appeared determined to wipe away the memory of last Sunday's Cup defeat by Palace.

Israeli striker Ronny Rosenzweig, on loan from Belgian club Standard Liege, scored the first in the 12th minute — his fourth in two games following his mid-week hat-trick at Charlton — and England midfielder Steve McMahon added the second.

But Forest, experiencing their worst run during manager Brian Clough's 15-year reign, slowly fought their way back.

First, Steve Hodge pulled one back with his 14th goal of the season after Ian Rush lost possession to Nigel Clough in mid-field and then Nigel Jenson brought Forest level in the 70th

minute with his fourth goal of the season.

Captain Stuart Pearce, returning after missing two games through injury, twice cleared shots off the line — the second in the final minutes — with goalkeeper Mark Crossley, replacing the out-of-favour Steve Sutton, well beaten.

Villa midfielder Cowans kept his side's championship challenge alive with only his third goal of the season, while Paul McGrath marshalled the defence as they sat back and defended their lead.

Tony Casciaro, Villa's £1.5 million (\$2.4 million) buy who has not scored in his first six games, set up the goal when Chelsea keeper Dave Beasant failed to hold his shot.

At the bottom of the table

Millwall, without a win since they beat Villa in December, were sunk by two headed goals from Mick Harford at Derby.

Their drop to the Second division after two seasons in the first was sealed when Manchester City and Manchester United both won.

United came back from a goal down to win 2-1 at Queen's Park Rangers. Mark Robins, whose goal against Oldham on Wednesday put United into the FA Cup final, came on as substitute again and scored their first after 68 minutes. He then made the second for Neil Webb in the 75th.

Neighbours City also had substitute Adrian Heath to thank for their 2-1 win at home to fellow strugglers Sheffield Wednesday. Heath scored in the 77th minute, two minutes after coming on, and eight minutes after Wednesday had qualified.

United and City moved above Wednesday and Palace.

Charlton staged a fightback after going 3-0 down at Southampton but lost 3-2 and look set to join Millwall in the Second Division next season. They are 10 points adrift of Wednesday with four games left.

Luton have a huge fight on their hands to retain First Division status after squandering a two-goal lead against Everton. They are six points behind Wednesday, the club above them, but have a game in hand.

Results
English Division One
Aston Villa 1 Chelsea 0
Crystal Palace 1 Arsenal 1
Derby 2 Millwall 0
Liverpool 1 Nottingham Forest 0
Luton 0 Everton 0
Manchester City 2 Sheffield Wednesday 1
Q.P.R. 1 Manchester United 0
Southampton 3 Charlton 1
Tottenham 1 Coventry 1
Wimbledon 1 Norwich 1

English Division Two
Barnsley 1 West Ham 1
Bradford 0 Blackburn 1
Brighton 0 W. Bromwich 1
Jewell 3 Port Vale 2
Leicester 1 Portsmouth 0
Plymouth 1 Bournemouth 1
Sheffield U. 2 Oxford 1
Slote 0 Middlesbrough 1
Sunderland 0 Hull 1
Swindon 0 Watford 0
Wolves 2 Newcastle 1

English Division Three
Bolton 1 Tranmere 1
Bristol R. 2 Rotherham 0
Chester 1 Northampton 1
Fulham 1 Birmingham 1
Huddersfield 2 Blackpool 1
Leyton Orient 2 Bury 1
Mansfield 1 Wigan 0
Notts County 2 Crewe 0
Preston 0 Bristol City 1
Reading 0 Cardiff 1
Sheff. Wed. 1 Brentford 1
Walsall 2

English Division Four
Aldershot 0 Maidstone 2
Aurley 1 Cambridge 3
Doncaster 1 Chesterfield 0
Gillingham 1 Hereford 1
Hartlepool 0 Colchester 1
Lincoln 0 Scarborough 0
Peterborough 3 Halifax 0
Southport 3 Wrexham 1
Southend 3 Rochdale 1
Stockport 3 Grimsby 4
Torquay 0 Exeter 2
York 0 Carlisle 1

Scottish Football Association (FA) Cup
Cydebank 0 Celtic 2
(Played at Hampden Park)
Dunfermline 1 Hibernian 4
(Played at Hearts FC)

Scottish Premier Division
Dundee 1 St Mirren 2
Dunfermline 1 Motherwell 1
Rangers 2

Scottish Division One
Airdrie 1 Meadowbank 4
Albion 0 Albion 2
Ayr 0 Falkirk 0
Clyde 2 Forth 0
Forfar 2 Morton 0
Hamilton 1

Scottish Division Two
Berwick 1 E. Stirling 0
Dumfries 1 Cowdenbeath 3
East Fife 1 Brechin 3
East Perth 1 Brechin 3
Queen's Park 1
Queen's S. 1 Stenhousemuir 4
Stirling 1 Arbroath 2
Stranraer 2 Kilmarnock 1

Marseille brush aside Bordeaux

PARIS, April 15. (Reuters): Two superb goals by England's Chris Waddle direct from free kicks gave Marseille a crucial 2-0 home victory over arch rivals Bordeaux which put them back on top of the French First Division yesterday.

The European Cup semifinalists, who had trailed Bordeaux in the League since October, are now a point clear and have a game in hand.

Waddle, signed at the start of the season for a French record \$6.5 million fee, broke the deadlock in the 59th minute of what was billed the championship decider.

Marseille's fans in the 40,000 capacity crowd erupted in a frenzy as his shot bounced in front of Bordeaux goalkeeper Joseph Antoine Bell before rolling into the net.

Waddle struck again two minutes before the final whistle with a powerful kick which left the Cameroun international keeper without a chance.

Marseille's hard-earned victory, which makes them favourites to retain their title with six games remaining, was a big morale booster four days before their European Cup return leg against Portugal's Benfica in Lisbon.

Bordeaux president Claude Bez admitted Marseille were the better side and conceded the result put them in the driving seat in the race for the championship.

"This is a deserved victory. Marseille have been stronger than we have in this one match," he said.

"I think Marseille have made a big step toward the title. But with the players they have I am surprised they did not take the lead before."

Marseille midfielder Franck Sauzeau was naturally delighted with the win. "It is fantastic to win such a match, especially after the disputes of the last few days in which football had been forgotten," he said.

Bez and Marseille president Bernard Tapie had turned the match into a war of nerves by exchanging criticism of each other in the press in the lead-up to the game.

Five hundred policemen and 480 volunteers were drafted in to ensure safety but no serious incident was reported inside or outside the stadium.

Paris St Germain's bid to qualify for the UEFA Cup next season was boosted with a 2-1 win in Lyon which left them in fourth place, a point clear of Sochaux who drew 1-1 at Racing Paris.

San Siro will be closed on April 25 to allow the pitch to be prepared for the World Cup finals starting there in June.

Results
Cecina 1 Juventus 1
Napoli 3 Bari 0
Lazio 3 Ascoli 0
Genoa vs Internazionale (abandoned because of rain)
Cremone 0 Roma 1
Fiorentina 3 Verona 1
Lecce 1 Bologna 0
Lidense 0 Atalanta 0



Marseille's Jean-Pierre Papin (left) and Bordeaux' Didier Sanac fight for the ball. (Reuters wirephoto)



Braga's Serrinha (on the ground) tackles Benfica's Fernando Chalana. (Reuters wirephoto)

Results
Marseille 2 Bordeaux 0
Lyon 2 P.S.G. 2
Toulouse 2 Brail 1
Metz 1 St Etienne 0
Racing Paris 1 Sochaux 1
Auxerre 1 Caenn 0
Nantes 1 Troncon 0
Nice 1 Caen 0
Montpellier 5 Lille 0

Rui Aguas scored in the first minute as Portuguese First Division leaders Porto beat Boavista 3-1 at home yesterday to maintain their four-point advantage over champions Benfica.

Porto had to wait until the 65th minute for their second goal, scored by Antonio Semedo.

Five minutes from the end Boavista reduced the deficit with a headed goal by Jaime but an

own goal by defender Valdir sealed their fate.

Benfica, who meet Marseille in the second leg of their European Cup semifinal next Wednesday, stroled to a 3-1 home win over Braga.

Swedish international Mats Magnusson, the League's top marksman, opened the scoring in the 20th minute with a header from a corner.

Cesar Brito and Vata struck in the second half to give the champions a 3-0 lead. Braga's consolation goal came from Moroni in the final minute.

Fourth-placed Sporting had to struggle to beat bottom-placed Feirense 3-2 at home.

Kuwaitis in record line-up for UAE race

DUBAI: With a record line-up and prize money reaching another new peak, the Emirates Offshore Powerboat Race brings the first Middle East Championship to a climax on April 27.

The organisers of the race, Dubai International Marine Club, expect 80 boats to line up at Dubai's Mina Seyaha Harbour in an event which reflects the rapid growth of powerboat racing in the Gulf region.

A total of 11 Kuwaiti crews are expected to take part. They will include Mishaal Al Jarallah in his 32-foot catamaran, and Thabai Al Bannai, Class B winner in last month's race in Kuwait in his 26-foot Tiger-cat.

Emirates chairman, Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, has announced that prize money for this year's race, the richest in the world, will be increased to Dh 2.5 million. "It is pleasing to note that the event has helped bring about a sharp rise in the popularity of powerboat racing in this part of the world," said Sheikh Ahmed.

Recently, the Dubai International Marine Club became the first in the Arab world to be accepted as a full member of the sport's world governing body, the International Union of Motorboat Racing (IUM).

The club's managing director, Saeed Hareb, was elected by IUM as its Middle East coordinator. Hareb, who organised Bahrain's first offshore powerboat race last month, said: "The official recognition from IUM means that we can now issue international licences which will allow competitors from this region to compete in international races anywhere in the world."

To be held under the patronage of Sheikh Maktoum bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Prime Minister of the UAE and Crown Prince of Dubai, the Emirates race will again be open to Class A and Class B boats.

The Group B boats will follow a four-lap 86-nautical mile course which will be extended by an additional 17-nautical mile lap for the more powerful Group A challengers.

The first Middle East Championship Class A drivers and co-drivers' titles have already been won by Hameed Al Buhelba and Randy Seim. Both are members of the Dubai-based Victory team which has dominated a series consisting of two races in Dubai, and others in Jordan and Kuwait.

While another Victory Team member, Khalifan Hareb, has clinched the Class B drivers' championship, the co-drivers' title will be decided in Dubai.

The closing date for entries is April 24.

Napoli stay level with Milan

Careca scores on return

ROME, April 15. (Reuters): A Diego Maradona penalty helped Napoli to a 3-0 home win over Bari yesterday that kept them level with AC Milan at the top of the Italian First Division with two matches remaining.

Italian international Andrea Carnevale and Brazil's Careca added second half goals to boost Napoli's goal difference as the southern team race neck and neck with the European champions on 47 points.

AC Milan, who beat Sampdoria 1-0 on Friday in their last league match of the season at San Siro, have the edge with a goal difference of 26 to Napoli's 23.

Awarded
Napoli pulled level with Milan in midweek when a football tribunal awarded them a 2-0 win after midfielder Alemas was hit by a coin during their goalless draw at Atalanta last Sunday. Maradona calmly netted the

28th minute spot kick for his 15th League goal of the season, a neat feat sending goalkeeper Giulio Drago the wrong way. Drago gave away the penalty when he upended midfielder Massimo Crippa.

Careca celebrated his return from injury with his eighth goal in the 73rd minute. Carnevale scored nine minutes into the second half.

Defending champions Internazionale, in third place six points adrift of the leaders, had their game at Genoa called after 10 minutes because of rain.

The suspension suited Inter who were a goal down after only six minutes. The match will be replayed on April 25.

Inter were joined on 41 points by Juventus, scorers of four goals at home a week ago but held 1-1 at lowly Cesena. Italy striker Roberto Baggio, who has been off form lately,

scored twice in Fiorentina's 3-1 home win over Verona.

Baggio, who missed a penalty at Roma last Sunday, netted a 48th-minute spot kick and collected his 16th goal of the season seconds before the final whistle.

Relegation-threatened Verona took the lead after half an hour through Davide Pelligrini, but Alberto di Chiara equalised within 10 minutes.

Striking
Lazio, who signed West German international Karl-Heinz Riedle in midweek, also scored three goals. Uruguayan international Ruben Sosa striking after five minutes to spur them to a 3-0 win at home to bottom team Ascoli.

Brazilian Amarildo and Franco Marabegiani also scored in the first half.

Roma's West German international Rudi Vocler pounced

on a defensive mistake that could cost Cremonese relegation, intercepting a poor pass to beat two backs and score an 80th minute goal for a 1-0 victory.

Lecce scored two valuable points in their fight against relegation with a 1-0 home win over Bologna. Hungarian striker Istvan Vincze netting a 15th-minute penalty after Pedro Pasculli was fouled as he attempted to pick up a pass from fellow Argentine Juan Barbas.

San Siro will be closed on April 25 to allow the pitch to be prepared for the World Cup finals starting there in June.

Results
Cecina 1 Juventus 1
Napoli 3 Bari 0
Lazio 3 Ascoli 0
Genoa vs Internazionale (abandoned because of rain)
Cremone 0 Roma 1
Fiorentina 3 Verona 1
Lecce 1 Bologna 0
Lidense 0 Atalanta 0

McCallum, Rosi and Nunn score contrasting wins

LONDON, April 15. (Reuters): Mike McCallum of Jamaica retained his World Boxing Association (WBA) middleweight title in style yesterday when he knocked out Britain's Michael Watson in the 11th round.

McCallum, fighting the 11th title bout of his 39-fight career, felled his opponent with a flurry of blows two minutes 22 seconds into the penultimate round of a gruelling encounter.

The force of the blows had 25-year-old Watson still stretched out on the canvas long after Puerto Rican referee Roberto Ramirez had counted him out.

McCallum, eight years older than his opponent, showed his detractors that age counted for little in a fight that took off in the fourth round.

Watson was stung into action by a low blow from the champion, but McCallum kept the initiative, landing a sharp uppercut to the challenger's face which left his nose dripping blood.

Throughout the fight McCallum lived up to his nickname of "The Bodysnatcher," his low, stinging punches to the torso sapping his opponent's strength and provoking loud complaints from Watson's corner.

On the occasions, in the sixth and eighth rounds, McCallum appeared to land blows well after the bell, sending Watson's cornerman rushing across the ring in protest.

Watson's manager Mickey Duff said later his boxer, who was on the floor for almost three minutes after the knockdown, would not fight at middleweight again but would move up a division.

McCallum, looking fresh and relaxed after the fight said he felt it should have been stopped in



Rosi holds up his arms in victory as Daigle leans on the ropes. (Reuters wirephoto)

the 10th round. In that round, he was dictating the pace and appeared to be hitting Watson at will.

"He should not have been allowed to carry on as long as he did. Maybe it should have been stopped after the 10th round. He wanted the title so bad he was just going on instinct," the champion said.

In Monte Carlo, Monaco, Italy's Gianfranco Rosi success-

fully defended his International Boxing Federation junior middleweight title by stopping American Kevin Daigle in the seventh round last night.

Rosi improved his record to 48-3 by scoring frequently and wearing Daigle down. There were knockdowns in the fight but Rosi was unchallenged from the start.

Referee Rudy Battle of the United States finally called it off at 2 minutes and 29 seconds into

the seventh round after Rosi scored a combination that tired Daigle.

Daigle was ranked sixth by the US Boxing Federation and was not in the IBF's top ten. He is now 21-8, according to ring promoters although his record is in dispute, according to sources.

And in Las Vegas, International Boxing Federation middleweight champion Michael Nunn retained his title yesterday by winning a 12-round majority decision over fellow American Marlon Starling, the World Boxing Council welterweight champion.

Nunn utilised his sizeable height and reach advantage to hit Starling with quick, stinging jabs and keep the challenger at bay. Starling, an effective counter-puncher, was frustrated by Nunn and was never able to put together combinations.

Nunn now is scheduled to meet the IBF's number one middleweight contender, former world welterweight and WBC super welterweight champion Donald Curry, in a mandatory defence in July.

Starling, who moved up in class to fight Nunn, did not relinquish his WBC title.

The 27-year-old Nunn, now 35-0, piled up his winning margin during the middle rounds and won by eight and six points on two of the three judges' scorecards. A third judge had it even.

Even Starling acknowledged that Nunn had won the fight.

"I think he won on a close decision," said Starling, 31.

There were no knockdowns and neither fighter was hurt or in danger of going down.

Starling, who lost for the first time since 1986, now has a record of 45-5-1.



Daigle (left) is hit with a fight by Rosi. (Reuters wirephoto)



Gianfranco Rosi makes the 'V' sign after retaining his title. (Reuters wirephoto)

Higgins slams corruption in snooker

SHEFFIELD, England, April 15. (Reuters): Former world champion Alex Higgins announced his retirement from snooker yesterday during an emotional outburst in which he complained of corruption in the sport.

He was also alleged to have struck a tournament official as he walked past him into a press conference.

After losing 10-5 to English Steve James in the first round of the world championship, the controversial Northern Irishman said: "The events of the past few weeks have been unbearable."

"I don't want to be part of a cartel. I don't want to be part of a game where there are slush funds for everybody and the players are mucked about."

"This game is the most corrupt in the world and it needs to be brought to the attention of the department of trade and industry. The Hurricane (Higgins' nickname) doesn't want to be part of this tripe any more. I hate the game. I abhor it."

Ann Yates, the world professional billiards and snooker association's tournament director, alleged that Higgins had hit press officer Colin Randall in the stomach.

"Mr Randall will be making an official complaint," she said. Higgins has had numerous brushes with the sport's ruling body during a tempestuous career which brought him the world crown in 1972 and 1982.

He was fined £12,000 (\$19,680) and suspended for five tournaments for butting an official at the 1987 United Kingdom championship.

هكذا من الأول

SPORTS

W. Indies batsmen put England attack to sword

Greenidge, Haynes slam tons



W. Indies' Courtney Walsh raises his arm after dismissing Gladstone Small. (Reuters wirephoto)

ST JOHN'S, Antigua, April 15, (Reuters): Gordon Greenidge and Desmond Haynes each plundered unbeaten centuries off a lacklustre England attack to put West Indies in a seemingly impregnable position in the fifth and deciding Test yesterday.

After England had been dismissed for 260 in their first innings shortly after lunch on the second day, the pair tore the touring team's attack to shreds as West Indies finished on 228 for no wicket when bad light ended play.

Greenidge, playing in his 100th Test, ended unbeaten on 118 with Haynes 101 not out. The pair set a West Indian record for the first wicket against England, beating the previous best of 206 set by Roy Fredericks and Lawrence Rowe in Kingston in 1974.

Their century stand came up in the 23rd over and they passed the 200 mark in the 45th.

Greenidge was slightly the faster, reaching three figures 13 minutes ahead of Haynes in just over four hours. He struck two sixes and 11 fours while Haynes had one six and 16 fours in his century.

The batting onslaught came after England had lost their last four wickets after resuming at 203 for six — and after West Indies captain Viv Richards had

been involved in an astonishing outburst against a British journalist.

Instead of leading his team on to the field at the start of play, Richards appeared in the press box and berated the journalist over his report of an incident during the first day's play on Thursday.

"You hurt people when you write these things and when you hurt people they get angry. Nobody should get in my way at the moment," Richards said. He rejoined the match shortly afterwards.

The West Indies captain was reported in the British press to have made rude gestures towards English supporters following the dismissal of visiting captain Allan Lamb.

West Indies manager Clive Lloyd said later no statement on the incident would be issued until after the Test had ended.

However, the row was soon overshadowed by the brilliance of Greenidge and Haynes. They were both in vintage form and posted the 50 in only the 11th over. The century stand was the 14th they have shared.

For the England bowlers it was agony. David Capel was hit for 64 runs in 11 overs. Gladstone Small 67 in 14 and Devon Malcolm 55 in two balls short of 15.

Fast bowler Ian Bishop took

three of the last four England wickets to finish with five for 84.

He had Jack Russell caught behind for seven and DeFreitas leg before for 21. After Courtney Walsh dismissed Small for eight, Bishop wrapped up the innings when he ended Nasser Hussain's three hours of defiance by having him caught behind for 35.

Scoreboard

ENGLAND first innings (overnight 203 for six)

A. Stewart c Richards b Walsh	27
W. Larkins c Hooper b Ambrose	30
R. Bailey c Dujon b Bishop	42
A. Lamb c Richards b Ambrose	37
R. Smith lbw b Walsh	12
N. Hussain c Dujon b Bishop	35
D. Capel c Haynes b Bishop	10
J. Russell c Dujon b Bishop	7
P. DeFreitas lbw b Bishop	21
G. Small lbw b Walsh	8
D. Malcolm not out	0
Extras (b-5 lb-11 w-15)	31
Total	280

Fall of wickets: 1-42-101 3-143 4-167 5-167 6-185 7-212 8-242 9-259

Bowling: Bishop 28.1-6-84-5, Ambrose 29.5-79-2, Walsh 21-4-51-3, Baptiste 13-4-30-0.

WEST INDIES first innings

G. Greenidge not out	118
D. Haynes not out	101
Extras (lb-1 nb-8)	228
Total (no wicket)	228

To bat: V. Richards, R. Richardson, A. Logie, C. Hooper, J. Dujon, E. Baptiste, C. Ambrose, I. Bishop, G. Walsh.

Bowling to date: Small 14-0-87-0, Malcolm 14.4-1-55-0, Capel 11-1-64-0, DeFreitas 12-2-41-0.



Sanchez returns a shot to Sabatini. (Reuters wirephoto)

Graf and Sanchez win

AMELIA ISLAND, Fla., April 15, (Reuters): Top-ranked Steffi Graf survived a scare yesterday to keep her winning streak alive and reach the final of the \$350,000 Amelia Island women's open clay court tournament against No. 3 Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain.

Graf struggled past fifth-seeded Natalia Zvereva of the Soviet Union 7-6 6-7 6-1, while Sanchez Vicario ousted number two seed Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina 6-4 6-0 to set up a rematch of last year's French Open final, won by the Spaniard.

Since losing to Sanchez Vicario in Paris, Graf has been invincible. But the West German, competing here after missing two months with a broken thumb, was pressed to the limit by Zvereva before registering her 36th successive match victory.

Graf's serve was broken five by Zvereva and the West German also squandered a match point in the second set.

"Today, I was too defensive and yesterday (in a 6-4 6-4 win over Canadian Carling Bassett-Seguso) I was too aggressive," said Graf, 20. "I just didn't have the balance in my game. I'm not doing the right things on the court."

"Steffi didn't play her best in this match," said Zvereva, who was coming off a three-set win over Zina Garrison. "It was probably a miracle that I was so tired. I wasn't capable of playing the third set."

Zvereva said Graf could be beaten by Sanchez Vicario in today's final.

"At the times when Steffi is not playing her best, everybody will have many chances to beat her," Zvereva said.

Zvereva had plenty of chances herself.

Graf twice served for the first set and had four set points, but squandered each of them on errors. She rolled to a 5-1 lead in



Graf sends a forehand return to Zvereva. (Reuters wirephoto)

the tiebreak, but Zvereva won the next five points and served for the set. But Graf tied it on a backhand volley.

Each player had another set point in the tiebreak, but couldn't capitalise. Graf went ahead 9-8 when Zvereva netted a backhand and then won it on an overhead winner.

Zvereva charged to a 5-1 in the second set, but was tiring. When Graf won five straight games to lead 6-5, it looked over.

But Zvereva fought off a break point in the 12th game and held serve to force another tiebreak. From 3-3, Zvereva won four of the last five points helped by Graf's backhand errors.

Graf rolled in the third set, however, to reach the final. "There are no easy rounds any more," said Graf, who last

played a match with two tiebreakers sets in the 1986 US Open when she lost to Martina Navratilova in the semifinals.

Sanchez Vicario, 18, has lost five of six matches against Graf but improved net play has her brimming with confidence.

"I feel very confident about winning this tournament," Sanchez Vicario said. "I'm not scared of Steffi. I know how she plays and I know what I have to do to beat her."

Sanchez Vicario's net play surprised Sabatini, who had no sight of their mic camera snafus.

"It is strange to see Sabatini at the net," Sabatini said. "She never came to the net before. But I think she's very dangerous coming to the net because her volley is good."

Persson out of European TT tourney

GOTHENBURG, Sweden, April 15, (Reuters): Former winner Jorgen Persson suffered the fate he had dreaded yesterday — elimination from the European Table Tennis Championships in his opening match by China-born Wang Yangsheng.

Wang, registered here as a Norwegian and playing in West Germany as a professional, beat the second-seeded Swede 21-16 19-21 23-21 14-21 21-14 in the second round.

On a bad day for Sweden, who retained their men's team crown earlier in the week, fifth seed Erik Lindh also went out, beaten in four games by Greek Calin Creanga, ranked 99 places below him.

Lindh, 1988 Olympic bronze medalist, was disappointed with himself for a lack of concentration.

"I didn't change my tactics enough," Lindh added after being beaten 10-21 22-20 21-14 24-22 by Creanga, ranked 106th in the world.

Two other top Swedes, defending champion Mikael Appelgren and world gold medalist Jan-Ove Waldner, made the third round without dropping a game.

Waldner beat Qian Qianli, another China-born player who represents Austria, 21-19 21-13 22-20 while Appelgren saw off West German Torben Wosik 21-17 21-16 21-12.

Edberg wins Japan Open

Lindqvist takes women's title

TOKYO, April 15, (Reuters): Defending champion Stefan Edberg of Sweden beat American Aaron Krickstein 6-4 7-5 in the final of the \$1.15 million Japan Open tennis tournament today. It was his second success of the year.

Edberg, who dropped only one set on the way to his 22nd singles crown, took 90 minutes to overcome Krickstein and collect the \$137,500 winner's cheque.

Fourth-seeded Krickstein, who knocked out top seed and world number one Ivan Lendl in the semifinals, took an early 4-2 lead in the first set with his powerful serves and cross-court winners.

Second seed Edberg, playing a solid serve-and-volley game, broke Krickstein in the seventh game and went on to take the next three games with some unreturnable first serves.

"I never gave up today and I had a good chance. I wanted very badly to win. I served better than him," said former Wimbledon champion Edberg.

Krickstein, who won the Scottsdale classic last month, huilt a 4-2 lead in the second set as Edberg committed a series of volley errors, but the world number two quickly broke back.

"I feel very good about my tennis. I have a chance at being number one this year," said Edberg.

Krickstein, ranked seventh in the world, said he failed to make the most of the openings. "I had a good chance to win either one of



Edberg shows off his trophy. (Reuters wirephoto)

the sets. I wasn't aggressive enough when I had to be," he said.

Top women's seed Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden, ranked

34th, won her first tournament of the year and sixth career singles title with a comfortable 6-3 6-2 victory over 52nd-ranked Elizabeth Smyke of Australia.

Waldegard fights to keep Safari lead

NAIROBI, Kenya, April 15, (AP): The Marlboro Safari Rally continued today with Bjorn Waldegard of Sweden fighting off stiff competition from defending champion Massimo Biasion of Italy.

Only 12 of the 58 starters of the five-day 4,000-kilometre (2,480-mile) cross country race left the northwest farming town of Eldoret in the morning — one fewer than last year's finishers in a similar-sized pack.

The cars were racing 657.15 kilometres (407.4 miles) on slippery, rock-strewn roads winding round the eastern and western slopes of the rain-sodden Rift Valley.

Those surviving the treacherous route were expected in the farming town of Nakuru late today for an overnight stay.

Waldegard, driving a Toyota Celica GT4, had lost 6 hours 46 minutes 11 seconds when the cars left Eldoret.

He was only 36 minutes 11 seconds in penalty points ahead of world and Safari Rally champion, Biasion, driving a Lancia Delta Integrale, which shed 7 hours 10 minutes 17 seconds.

Biasion is seeking a third straight victory while Waldegard is after a fourth in a decade.

At the end of the first sector of



Marlboro Safari Rally



Massimo Biasion

the third leg in Eldoret yesterday, Waldegard led Biasion with 21 minutes 11 seconds.

He increased his lead on a 689.75-kilometre (427.6-mile) dash before returning to Eldoret for the night.

Organisers described the



Waldegard slithers around a tight turn. (Reuters wirephoto)

second part of the third leg as the most critical part of the 38th Safari rally in this East African nation.

They said it was raining in the Cherangani Hills northeast of Eldoret and roads, atrocious in the best of times, were nearly

impassable.

The route loops westward to Mount Elgon near Uganda's border with western Kenya, cuts south towards Lake Victoria and veers back to Eldoret where the drivers spent the night.

Biasion momentarily took the

lead when Waldegard's Toyota broke its drive shaft. But the Swede recaptured the top spot when Biasion got bogged down, like many drivers before him, in axle-deep mud.

Nevertheless, the Lancias left Eldoret in second and third places, with Juha Kankkunen of Finland behind Biasion.

The third Lancia of Italy's Alessandro Fiorio succumbed to mud and mechanical breakdown before reaching Eldoret yesterday.

Mikael Ericsson of Sweden was fourth in a Toyota, Carlos Sainz of Spain fifth, also in a Toyota, and Kenyan Jim Heather Hayes sixth in a Subaru Legacy.

Seventh placed was Kenjiro Shinozuka of Japan in a Mitsubishi Galant.

Rudolf Stohl of Austria, in an Audi 90 Quattro, was eighth followed by Kenyan Patrick Njiru in a Subaru Legacy.

Daihatsu Charades of Kenyans Steve Anthony and Ashok Pattai held tenth and eleventh positions respectively while a Toyota driven by Yasuniro Iwase of Japan trailed — 15 hours 17 minutes 53 seconds behind Waldegard in penalty points.

Respect Boston marathon course, say top runners

BOSTON, April 15, (UPI): If runners at the Boston marathon lack restraint or knowledge, they will certainly receive a lesson in pain, say the top entrants in tomorrow's race.

"If you don't respect the course, it's deadly," John Campbell said yesterday.

"You've got to keep your head about you and not go out too fast in the first three or four miles," Campbell, from New Zealand, finished sixth in the marathon two years ago.

"If you go too fast on the downhill, you'll feel fast and feel invincible," said Kim Jones, who was third last year. "But then at the hills your quads (quadriceps) give out."

The 26.2-mile course starts in Hopkinton at an elevation of 490 feet and immediately proceeds downhill. The stretch of hills between 16 and 22 miles hits the runners as fatigue is setting in.

"If you don't respect this course, you can get in trouble," said 1988 Olympic marathon gold medalist Gelindo Borin.

"When you get to the hills, you must be there with some energy," Tanzania's Juma Ikangaa is the heavy favourite and top-ranked male runner. He was the runner-up in both the 1988 and 1989



Ikangaa: favourite

Boston marathons.

"The last five miles is the critical part," Ikangaa said. "Last year I started to get fatigued because of no distribution of my strength evenly over the course. I must be very careful."

Amy Burfoot, the 1968 winner at Boston, says that if a runner does not know the grueling course, "he's facing serious pain, trouble and leg cramps. There have been a lot of 2:10 marathoners who came here and took three hours to finish."

The uphill comes at a particularly trying point in the race — and the uphill can kill you," said Burfoot, who says this race demands a "precisely timed strategy."

ARAB TIMES

Published by:
Dar Al-SayassahEditor-in-Chief:
Ahmed Al-JarallahEditorial Office:
Airport Road, Sharwaikh
P.O. Box 2270,
13023 Safat, Kuwait.Telex:
22332 KYTelephones:
4813566 (main lines)Advertising:
4816326/7Annual Subscriptions:
For 1991, the subscription price of the ARAB TIMES is \$100 per annum in advance. Single copies are \$10 each. Payment should be made to Dar Al-Sayassah, P.O. Box 2270, Safat 13023, Kuwait.